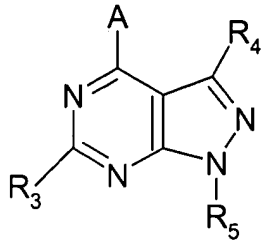
Complete listing of claims:

1. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a corticotropin releasing factor antagonist and a growth hormone secretagogue or growth hormone.

2. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 wherein said corticotropin releasing factor antagonist is a compound of formula



or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof, wherein A is NR_1R_2, $CR_1R_2R_{11}$, or $C(=CR_1R_{12})R_2$, $NHCR_1R_2R_{11}$, $OCR_1R_2R_{11}$, $SCR_1R_2R_{11}$, $NHNR_1R_2$, $CR_2R_{11}NHR_1$, $CR_2R_{11}OR_1$, $CR_2R_{11}SR_1$ or $C(O)R_2$;

R_1 is hydrogen, or C_1-C_6 alkyl which may be substituted by one or two substituents R_6 independently selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, O-C(O)-(C_1-C_6 alkyl), O-C(O)-N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl); amino, NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), S(C_1-C_6 alkyl), OC(O)NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), N(C_1-C_2 alkyl)C(O)(C_1-C_4 alkyl), NHC(O)(C_1-C_4 alkyl), COOH, CO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), C(O)NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), C(O)N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), SH, CN, NO_2, SO(C_1-C_4 alkyl); SO_2(C_1-C_4alkyl), SO_2NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), SO_2N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), and said C_1-C_6 alkyl may have one or two double or triple bonds;

R_2 is C_1-C_{12} alkyl, aryl or (C_1- C_{10}alkylene)aryl wherein said aryl is phenyl, naphthyl, thienyl, benzothienyl, pyridyl, quinolyl, pyrazinolyl, pyrimidyl, imidazolyl, furanyl, benzofuranyl, benzothiazolyl, isothiazolyl, benzisothiazolyl, thiazolyl, isoxazolyl, benzisoxazolyl, benzimidazolyl, triazolyl, pyrazolyl, pyrrolyl, indolyl, azaindolyl, oxazolyl, or benzoxazolyl; 3- to 8-membered cycloalkyl or (C_1-C_6 alkylene) cycloalkyl, wherein said cycloalkyl may have one or two of O, S or N-Z, wherein Z is hydrogen, substituted , independently, for one or two carbons of said cycloalkyl, C_1-C_4 alkyl, benzyl or C_1-C_4 alkanoyl, wherein R^2 may be substituted independently by from one to three of chloro, fluoro, or C_1-C_4 alkyl, or one of hydroxy, bromo, iodo, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, OC(O)(C_1-C_6 alkyl), O-C-N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), S(C_1-C_6 alkyl), NH_2, NH(C_1-C_2 alkyl), N(C_1-C_4 alkyl) C(O)(C_1-C_4 alkyl), NHC(O)(C_1-C_4 alkyl), COOH, C(O)O(C_1-C_4 alkyl), C(O)NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), C(O)N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), SH, CN, NO_2, SO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), SO_2(C_1-C_4 alkyl), SO_2NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), SO_2N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2alkyl), and wherein said C_1-C_{12} alkyl or C_1- C_{10}alkylene may have one to three double or triple bonds; or NR_1R_2 or $CR_1R_2R_{11}$ may form a 4- to 8-membered ring optionally having one or two double bonds or one or two of O, S or N-Z wherein Z is hydrogen, C_1-C_4 alkyl, benzyl, or C_1-C_4 alkanoyl;

R_3 is hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, hydroxy, amino, O(C_1-C_6 alkyl), NH(C_1-C_6 alkyl), N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), SH, S(C_1-C_4 alkyl), SO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), or SO_2(C_1-C_4 alkyl), wherein said C_1-C_4 alkyl and C_1-C_6 alkyl may have one or two double or triple bonds and may be substituted

by from 1 to 3 R, substituents independently selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, amino, C_1-C_3 alkoxy, dimethylamino, diethylamino, methylamino, ethylamino, $NHC(O)CH_3$, fluoro, chloro or C_1-C_3 thioalkyl;

R_4 is hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, amino, $NH(C_1$-C_6 alkyl), $N(C_1$-C_6 alkyl) (C_1-C_2 alkyl), $SO_n(C_1$-C_6 alkyl), wherein n is O, 1 or 2, cyano, hydroxy, carboxy, or amido, wherein said C_1-C_6 alkyls may be substituted by one to three of hydroxy, amino, carboxy, amido, $NHC(O)(C_1$-C_4 alkyl), $NH(C_1$-C_4alkyl), $N(C_1$-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), $C(O)O(C_1$-C_4 alkyl), C_1-C_3 alkoxy, C_1-C_3 thioalkyl, fluoro, bromo, chloro, iodo, cyano or nitro;

R_5 is phenyl, naphthyl, thienyl, benzothienyl, pyridyl, quinolyl, pyrazinolyl, pyrimidyl, imidazolyl, furanyl, benzofuranyl, benzothiazolyl, isothiazolyl, benzoisothiazolyl, thiazolyl, isoxazolyl, benzisoxazolyl, benzimidazolyl, triazolyl, pyrazolyl, pyrrolyl, indolyl, pyrrolopyridyl benzoxazolyl, oxazolyl, pyrrolidinyl, thiazolidinyl, piperazinyl, piperidinyl, or tetrazolyl, wherein each one of the above groups may be substituted independently by from one to three of fluoro, chloro, bromo, formyl, C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkoxy or trifluoromethyl, or one of hydroxy, iodo, cyano, nitro, amino, cyclopropyl, $NH(C_1$-C_4 alkyl), $N(C_1$-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), $COO(C_1$-C_4 alkyl), $CO(C_1$-C_4 alkyl), $SO_2NH(C_1$-C_4 alkyl), $SO_2N(C_1$-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), SO_2NH_2, $NHSO_2(C_1$-C_4 alkyl), $S(C_1$-C_6 alkyl), $SO_2(C_1$-C_6 alkyl), wherein said C_1-C_4 alkyl and C_1-C_6 alkyl may have one double or triple bond and may be substituted by one or two of fluoro, chloro, hydroxy, amino, methylamino, dimethylamino or acetyl; with the proviso that R_5 is not unsubstituted phenyl;

$R_{11}$is hydrogen, hydroxy, fluoro, chloro, $COO(C_1$-C_2 alkyl), cyano, or $CO(C_1$-C_2 alkyl); and

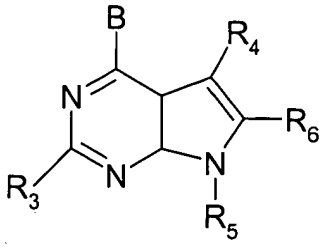
R_{12} is hydrogen or C_1-C_4 alkyl; with the provisos that:

(a) A is not straight chain C_1-C_{12} alkyl;

(b) when R_3 is hydrogen, A is benzyl or phenethyl, and R_4 is fluoro, chloro, bromo or iodo, then R_5 is not 5'-deoxy-ribofuranosyl or 5'-amino-5'-deoxy-ribofuranosyl; and

(c) when R^5 is phenyl, said phenyl is substituted by two or three substituents.

3. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 wherein said corticotropin releasing factor antagonist is a compound of formula B



and the pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts thereof, wherein

B is NR_1R_2, $CR_1R_2R_{11}$, $C(=CR_2R_{12})R_1$, $NHR_1R_2R_{11}$, $OCR_1R_2R_{11}$, $SCR_1R_2R_{11}$, $NHNR_1R_2$, $CR_2R_{11}NHR_1$, $CR_2R_{11}OR_1$, $CR_2R_{11}SR_1$, or $C(O)R_2$;

R_1 is hydrogen, or C_1-C_6 alkyl which may be substituted by one or two substituents R_7 independently selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, C_1-C_8 alkoxy, O-$C(=O)$-(C_1-C_6 alkyl), O-$C(=O)NH(C_1$-C_4 alkyl), O-$C(=O)$-$N(C_1$-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), amino, $NH(C_1$-C_4 alkyl), $N(C_1$-

C_2 alkyl)(C_1-C_4 alkyl), S(C_1-C_6 alkyl), N(C_1-C_4alkyl)C(=O)(C_1-C_4 alkyl), NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), COOH, C(=O)O(C_1-C_4 alkyl), C(=O)NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), C(=O)N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), SH, CN, NO_2, SO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), SO_2(C_1-C_4 alkyl), SO_2NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), SO_2N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), and said C_1-C_6 alkyl may contain one or two double or triple bonds;

R_2 is C_1-C_{12} alkyl, aryl or (C_1- C_{10} alkylene)aryl wherein said aryl is phenyl, naphthyl, thienyl, benzothienyl, pyridyl, quinolyl, pyrazinyl, pyrimidyl, imidazolyl, furanyl, benzofuranyl, benzothiazolyl, isothiazolyl, benzisothiazolyl, thiazolyl, isoxazolyl, benzisoxazolyl, benzimidazolyl, triazolyl, pyrazolyl, pyrrolyl, indolyl, pyrrolopyridyl, oxazolyl, or benzoxazolyl; 3- to 8-membered cycloalkyl or (C_1-C_6 alkylene) cycloalkyl, wherein said cycloalkyl may contain one or two of O, S or N-Z wherein Z is hydrogen, C_1-C_4 alkyl, benzyl or C_1-C_4 alkanoyl, wherein R_2 may be substituted independently by from one to three of chloro, fluoro, or C_1-C_4 alkyl, or one of hydroxy, bromo, iodo, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, O-C(=O)-(C_1-C_6 alkyl), O-C-N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), S(C_1-C_6 alkyl), NH_2, NH(C_1-C_2 alkyl), N(C_1-C_2 alkyl) (C_1-C_4 alkyl), N(C_1-C_4)-(=O)(C_1-C_4 alkyl), NHC(=O)(C_1-C_4), COOH, C(=O)O(C_1-C_4 alkyl), C(=O)NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), C(=O)N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), SH, CN, NO_2, SO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), SO_2(C_1-C_4 alkyl), SO_2NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), SO_2N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), and wherein said C_1-C_{12} alkyl or C_1- C_{10} alkylene may contain one to three double or triple bonds; or NR_1R_2 or $CR_1R_2R_{11}$ may form a saturated 3- to 8 membered carbocyclic ring of which the 5- to 8-membered ring contain one or two double bonds or one or two of O, S or N-Z wherein Z is hydrogen, C_1-C_4 alkyl, benzyl or C_1-C_4 alkanoyl;

R_3 is hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, hydroxy, amino, O(C_1-C_6 alkyl), NH(C_1-C_6 alkyl), N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), SH, S(C_1-C_4 alkyl), SO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), or SO_2(C_1-C_4 alkyl), wherein said C_1-C_4 alkyl and C_1-C_6 alkyl may contain from one or two double or triple bonds and may be substituted by from 1 to 3 substituents R8 independently selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, amino, C_1-C_3 alkoxy, dimethylamino, methylamino, methylamino, ethylamino, $NHCH_3$, fluoro, chloro or C_1-C_3 thioalkyl;

R_4 and R_6 are each independently hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, amino, NH(C_1-C_6 alkyl), N(C_1-C_6 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), SO_n(C_1-C_6 alkyl), wherein n is O, 1 or 2, cyano, hydroxy, carboxy, or amido, wherein said C_1-C_6 alkyls may be substituted by one to three of hydroxy, amino, carboxy, amido, NHC(=O)(C_1-C_4 alkyl), NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), C(=O)O(C_1-C4 alkyl), C_1-C_3 alkoxy, C_1-C_3 thioalkyl, fluoro, bromo, chloro, iodo, cyano or nitro;

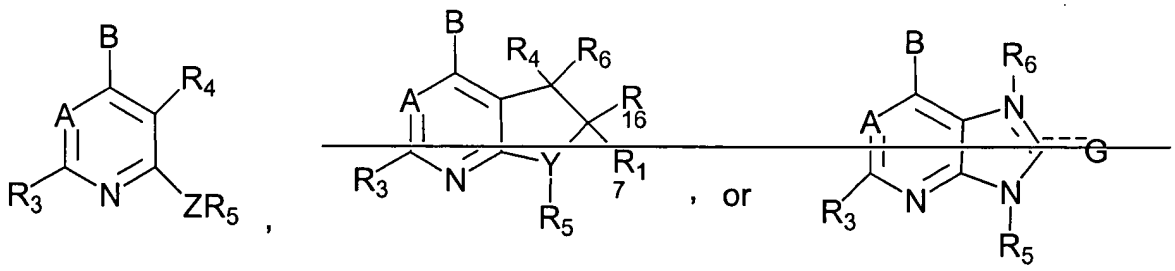
R_5 is phenyl, naphthyl, thienyl, benzothienyl, pyridyl, quinolyl, pyrazinyl, pyrimidyl, imidazolyl, furanyl, benzofuranyl, benzothiazolyl, isothiazolyl, benzisothiazolyl, thiazolyl, isoxazolyl, benzisoxazolyl, benzimidazolyl, triazolyl, pyrazolyl, pyrrolyl, indolyl, azaindolyl, benzoxazolyl, oxazolyl, pyrrolidinyl, thiazolidinyl, morpholinyl, piperidinyl, piperazinyl, tetrazolyl, or 3- to 8-membered cycloalkyl or 9- to 12-membered bicycloalkyl, optionally containing one to three of O, S or N-Z wherein Z is hydrogen, C_1-C_4 alkyl, C_1-C_4 alkanoyl, phenyl or phenylmethyl, wherein each one of the above groups may be substituted independently by from one to four of fluoro, chloro, C_1-C_6

alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkoxy or trifluoromethyl, or one of bromo, iodo, cyano, nitro, amino, NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), N(C_1-C_4)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), COO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), CO(C_1-C_4alkyl), SO_2NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), SO_2N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), SO_2NH_2, $NHSO_2$(C_1-C_4 alkyl), S(C_1-C_6 alkyl), SO_2(C_1-C_6 alkyl), wherein said C_1-C_4 alkyl and C_1-C_6 alkyl may be substituted by one or two of fluoro, chloro, hydroxy, amino, methylamino, dimethylamino or acetyl; with the proviso that R_5 is not unsubstituted phenyl;

R_{11} is hydrogen, hydroxy, fluoro, chloro, COO(C_1-C_2 alkyl), cyano, or CO(C_1-C_2 alkyl); and

R_{12} is hydrogen or C_1-C_4 alkyl; with the proviso that (1) when R_5 is 4-bromophenyl, R_3 is hydrogen, and R_4 and R_6 are methyl, then B is not methylamino or ethyl, and (2) when R_5 is 4-bromophenyl, and R_3, R_4 and R_6 are methyl, then B is not 2-hydroxyethylamino.

4. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a corticotropin releasing factor antagonist and a growth hormone secretagogue or growth hormone, ~~according to claim 1~~ wherein said corticotropin releasing factor antagonist is a compound of formula



wherein

A is CR_7 or N;

B is NR_1R_2, $CR_1R_2R_{11}$, $C(=CR_2R_{12})R_1$, $NHCHR_1R_2$, $OCHR_1R_2$, $SCHR_1R_2$, CHR_2OR_{12}, CHR_2SR_{12}, $C(S)R_2$ or $C(O)R_2$;

~~G is oxygen, sulfur, NH, NH_3, hydrogen, methoxy, ethoxy, trifluoromethoxy, methyl, ethyl, thiomethoxy, NH_2, $NHCH_3$, $N(CH_3)_2$ or trifluromethyl;~~

~~Y is CH or N;~~

Z is NH, O, S, N (C_1-C_2 alkyl), or $CR_{13}R_{14}$, wherein R_{13} and R_{14} are each independently hydrogen, trifluoromethyl, or C_1-C_4 alkyl, or one of R_{13} and R_{14} may be cyano, chloro, bromo, iodo, fluoro, hydroxy, O(C_1-C_2 alkyl), amino, NH(C_1-C_2 alkyl), or $CR_{13}R_{14}$ may be C=O or cyclopropyl;

R^1 is C_1-C_6 alkyl which may be substituted by one or two substituents R_8 independently selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, O-CO-(C_1-C_4 alkyl), O-CO-NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), O-CO-N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), N(C_1-C_2 alkyl)(C_1-C_4 alkyl), S(C_1-C_4 alkyl), N(C_1-C_4alkyl)CO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), NHCO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), COO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), CONH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), CON(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), S(C_1-C_4 alkyl), CN, NO_2, SO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), SO_2(C_1-C_4 alkyl), and said C_1-C4 alkyl or C_1-C_4 alkyl may contain one double or triple bond;

R_2 is C_1-C_{12} alkyl, aryl or (C_1-C_4 alkylene)aryl wherein said aryl is phenyl, naphthyl, thienyl, benzothienyl, pyridyl, quinolyl, pyrazinyl, pyrimidyl, imidazolyl, furanyl, benzofuranyl, benzothiazolyl,

isothiazolyl, benzisothiazolyl, benzisoxazolyl, benzimidazolyl, indolyl, or benzoxazolyl; 3- to 8-membered cycloalkyl or (C_1-C_6 alkylene)cycloalkyl, wherein said cycloalkyl may contain one or two of O, S or N-R_9 wherein R_9 is hydrogen, or C_1-C_4 alkyl, wherein the above defined R_2 may be substituted independently by from one to three of chloro, fluoro, or C_1-C_4 alkyl, or one of bromo, iodo, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, O-CO-(C_1-C_6 alkyl), O-CO-N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), S(C_1-C_6 alkyl), CN, NO_2, SO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), or SO_2(C_1-C_4 alkyl), and wherein said C_1-C_{12} alkyl or C_1-C_4 alkylene may contain one double or triple bond; or

NR_1R_2 or $CR_1R_2R_{11}$ may form a saturated 5- to 8-membered carbocyclic ring which may contain one or two double bonds or one or two of O or S;

R_3 is methyl, ethyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, cyano, methoxy, OCF_3, methylthio, methylsulfonyl, CH_2OH or CH_2OCH_3;

R_4 is hydrogen, C_1-C_4 alkyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, amino, nitro, NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), SO_n(C_1-C_4 alkyl), wherein n is O, 1 or 2, cyano, hydroxy, CO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), CHO, or COO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), wherein said C_1-C_4 alkyl may contain one or two double or triple bonds and may be substituted by one or two of hydroxy, amino, carboxy, $NHCOCH_3$, NH(C_1-C_2 alkyl), N(C_1-C_2 alkyl)$_2$, COO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), CO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), C_1-C_3 alkoxy, C_1-C_3 thioalkyl, fluoro, chloro, cyano or nitro;

R_5 is phenyl, naphthyl, thienyl, benzothienyl, pyridyl, quinolyl, pyrazinyl, pyrimidyl, furanyl, benzofuranyl, benzothiazolyl, or indolyl, wherein each one of the above groups R_5 is substituted independently by from one to three of fluoro, chloro, C_1-C_6 alkyl, or C_1-C_6 alkoxy, or one of hydroxy, iodo, bromo, formyl, cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl, amino, NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), N(C_1-C_6)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), COOH, COO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), CO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), SO_2NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), SO_2N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), SO_2NH_2, $NHSO_2$(C_1-C_4 alkyl), S(C_1-C_6 alkyl), or SO_2(C_1-C_6 alkyl), wherein said C_1-C_4 alkyl and C_1-C_6 alkyl may be substituted by one or two of fluoro, hydroxy, amino, methylamino, dimethylamino or acetyl;

~~R_6 is hydrogen, or C_1-C_6 alkyl, wherein said C_1-C_6 alkyl may be substituted by one hydroxy, methoxy, ethoxy or fluoro;~~

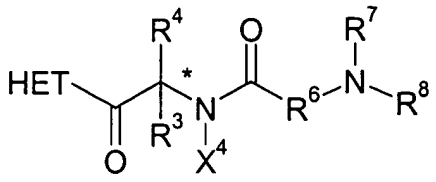
R_7 is hydrogen, C_1-C_4 alkyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, cyano, hydroxy, O(C_1-C_4 alkyl), C(O)(C_1-C_4 alkyl), or C(O)O(C_1-C_4 alkyl), wherein the C_1-C_4 alkyl groups may be substituted with one hydroxy, chloro or bromo, or one to three fluoro;

R^{11} is hydrogen, hydroxy, fluoro, or methoxy;

R^{12} is hydrogen or C_1-C_4 alkyl; and

~~R_{16} and R_{17} are each independently hydrogen, hydroxy, methyl, ethyl, methoxy, or ethoxy, except that they are not both methoxy or ethoxy, and CR_4R_6 and $CR1_6R_{17}$ each independently may be C=O~~

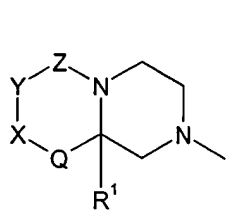
wherein said growth hormone secretagogue is a compound of formula IV:



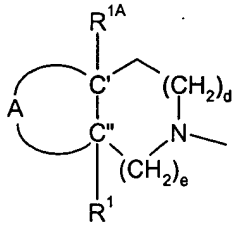
IV

or a stereoisomeric mixture thereof, a diastereomerically enriched, diastereomerically pure, enantiomerically enriched, or enantiomerically pure isomer thereof, or a prodrug of such compound, mixture, or isomer thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound, mixture, isomer, or prodrug, wherein in formula IV:

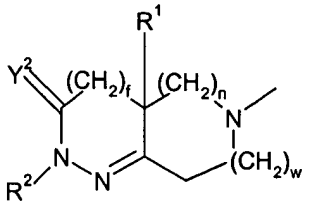
HET is a heterocyclic moiety selected from the group consisting of



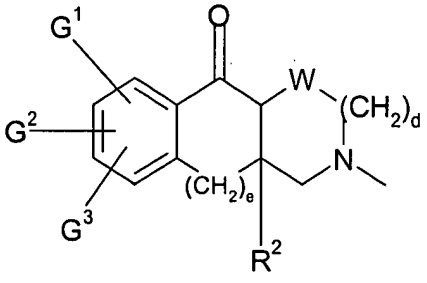
,



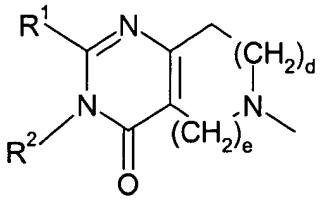
,



,



and



d is 0, 1, or 2;

e is 1 or 2;

f is 0 or 1;

n and w are 0, 1, or 2, provided that n and w cannot both be O at the same time;

Y^2 is oxygen or sulfur;

A is a divalent radical, wherein the left hand side of the radical as shown below is connected to C" and the right hand side of the radical as shown below is connected C', selected from the group consisting of -NR^2-CO-NR^2-, -NR^2-SO_2-NR^2-, -O-CO-NR^2-, -NR^2-CO_2-, -CO-NR^2-CO-, -CO-NR^2-$C(R^9R^{10}O)$-, -$C(R^9R^{10})$-NR^2-CO-,-$C(R^9R^{10})$-$C(R^9R^{10})$-$C(R^9R^{10})$-, -SO_2-$C(R^9R^{10})$-$C(R^9R^{10})$-$C(R^9R^{10})$-O-CO-, -$C(R^9R^{10})$-O-$C(R^9R^{10})$-, -NR^2-CO-$C(R^9R^{10})$-, -O-CO-$C(R^9R^{10})$-, -$C(R^9R^{10})$-CO-NR^2-, -CO-NR^2-CO-, -$C(R^9R^{10})$-CO_2-, -CO-NR^2-$C(R^9R^{10})$-$C(R^9R^{10})$-CO_2-$C(R^9R^{10})$-, -$C(R^9R^{10})$-$C(R^9R^{10})$-$C(R^9R^{10})$-$C(R^9R^{10})$-, -SO_2-NR^2-$C(R^9R^{10})$-$C(R^9R^{10})$-, -$C(R^9R^{10})$-$C(R^9R^{10})$-NR^2-CO-, -$C(R^9R^{10})$-$C(R^9R^{10})$-O-CO-, -NR^2-CO-$C(R^9R^{10})$-$C(R^9R^{10})$- -NR^2-SO_2-$C(R^9R^{10})$-$C(R^9R^{10})$- -O-CO-$C(R^9R^{10})$-$C(R^9R^{10})$-$C(R^9R^{10})$-$C(R^9R^{10})$-CO-NR^2-, -$C(R^9R^{10})$-$C(R^9R^{10})$-CO- -$C(R^9R^{10})$-NR^2-CO_2-$C(R^9R^{10})$-O-CO-NR^2, -$C(R^9R^{10})$-NR^2-CO-NR^2-, -NR^2-CO_2-$C(R^9R^{10})$-, -NR^2-CO-NR^2-$C(R^9R^{10})$-, -NR^2-SO_2-NR^2-$C(R^9R^{10})$-, -O-CO-NR^2-$C(R^9R^{10})$-, -CO-N=$C(R^{11})$-NR^2-, -CO-NR^2-$C(R^{11})$=N-, -$C(R^9R^{10})$-NR^{12}-$C(R^9R^{10})$-, -NR^{12}-$C(R^9R^{10})$- -NR^{12}-$C(R^9R^{10})$-$C(R^9R^{10})$- -CO_2-$C(R^9R^{10})$-$C(R^1R^{10})$- -NR^2-$C(R^{11})$=N-CO-, -$C(R^9R^{10})$-$C(R^9R^{10})$-N(R^{12})-, -$C(R^9R^{10})$-NR^{12}-, -N=$C(R^{11})$-NR^2-CO-, -$C(R^9R^{10})$-$C(R^9R^{10})$-NR^2-SO_2-, -$C(R^9R^{10})$-$C(R^9R^{10})$-SO_2-NR^2-, -$C(R^9R^{10})$-$C(R^9R^{10})$-CO_2- -$C(R^9R^{10})$-SO_2-$C(R^9R^{10})$- -$C(R^9R^{10})$-$C(R^9R^{10})$-SO_2- -O-$C(R^9R^{10})$-$C(R^9R^{10})$- -$C(R^9R^{10})$-$C(R^9R^{10})$-O-, -$C(R^9R^{10})$-CO-$C(R^9R^{10})$-, -CO-$C(R^9R^{10})$-$C(R^9R^{10})$-, and -$C(R^9R^{10})$-NR^2-SO_2-NR^2-;

Q is a covalent bond or CH_2;

W is CH or N;

X is CR^9R^{10}, $C=CH_2$, or C=O;

Y is CR^9R^{10}, O, or NR^2;

Z is C=O, C=S, or SO_2;

G^1 is hydrogen, halo, hydroxy, nitro, amino, cyano, phenyl, carboxyl, -$CONH_2$, -C_1-C_4 alkyl optionally independently substituted with one or more phenyl, one or more halogen, or one or more hydroxy groups, -C_1-C_4 alkoxy optionally independently substituted with one or more phenyl, one or more halogen, or one or more hydroxy groups, -C_1-C_4 alkylthio, phenoxy, -CO_2-(C_1-C_4 alkyl), N,N-di-(C_1-C_4 alkylamino), -C_2-C_6 alkenyl optionally independently substituted with one or more phenyl, one or more halogen, or one or more hydroxy groups, -C_2-C_6 alkynyl optionally independently substituted with one or more phenyl, one or more halogen, or one or more hydroxy groups, -C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl optionally independently substituted with one or more C_1-C_4 alkyl groups, one or more halogen, or one or more hydroxy groups, -C_1-C_4 alkylamino carbonyl, or di-C_1-C_4 alkylamino) carbonyl;

G2 and G^3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, hydroxy, -C_1-C_4 alkyl optionally independently substituted with one to three halo groups, and -C_1-C_4 alkoxy optionally independently substituted with one to three halo groups;

R^1 is hydrogen, -CN, -$(CH_2)_qNX^6COX^6$, -$(CH_2)_qNX^6CO(CH_2)$-A^1, -$(CH_2)_qNX^6SO_2(CH_2)$-A^1, -$(CH_2)_qNX^6SO_2X^6$, -$(CH_2)_qNX^6CONX^6(CH_2)_t$-$A^1$, -$(CH_2)_qNX^6CONX^6X^6$, -$(CH_2)_qCONX^6X^6$, -$(CH_2)_qCONX^6(CH_2)_t$-$A^1$, -$(CH_2)_qCO_2X^6$, -$(CH_2)_qCO_2(CH_2)_t$-$A^1$, -$(CH_2)_qOX^6$, -$(CH_2)_qOOOX^6$, -$(CH_2)_qOCO(CH_2)_t$-$A^1$, -$(CH_2)_qOCONX^6(CH_2)_t$-$A^1$, -$(CH_2)_qOCONX^6X^6$, -$(CH_2)_qCOX^6$, -

$(CH_2)_qCO(CH_2)_t$-A^1, -$(CH_2)_qNX^6CO_2X^6$, -$(CH_2)_qNX^6SO_2NX^6X^6$, -$(CH_2)_qSO_mX^6$, -$(CH_2)_qSO_m(CH_2)_t$-A^1, -C_1-C_{10} alkyl, -$(CH_2)_t$-A', -$(CH_2)_q$-(C_3-C_1 cycloalkyl), -$(CH_2)_q$-Y^1-(C_1-C_6 alkyl), -$(CH_2)_q$-Y^1-$(CH_2)_t$-A^1, or -$(CH_2)_q$-Y^1-$(CH_2)_t$-(C_3-C_1 cycloalkyl);

wherein the alkyl and cycloalkyl groups in the definition of R^1 are optionally substituted with C_1-C_4 alkyl, hydroxy, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, carboxyl, - $CONH_2$, -SO_m-(C_1-C_6 alkyl), -CO_2-(C_1-C_4 alkyl) ester, 1H-tetrazol-5-yl, or 1, 2, or 3 fluoro groups;

Y' is O, SO_m, -$CONX^6$-, -CH=CH-, -C=C-, -NX^6CO-, -$CONX^6$-, -CO_2-, -$OCONX^6$- or -OCO-;

q is O, 1, 2, 3, or 4;

t is O, 1, 2, or 3;

said $(CH_2)_q$ group and (CHA group in the definition of R' are optionally independently substituted with hydroxy, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, carboxyl, -$CONH_2$, - SO_m-(C_1-C_6 alkyl), -CO_2-(C_1-C_4 alkyl) ester, 1 H-tetrazol-5-yl, 1, 2, or 3 fluoro groups, or 1 or 2 C_1-C_4 alkyl groups;

R^{1A} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, F, Cl, Br, I, C_1-C_6 alkyl, phenyl-(C_1-C_3 alkyl), pyridyl-(C_1-C_3 alkyl), thiazolyl-(C_1-C_3 alkyl), and thienyl-(C_1-C_3 alkyl), provided that R^{1A} is not F, Cl, Br, or I when a heteroatom is vicinal to C";

R^2 is hydrogen, C_1-C_8 alkyl, -(C_o-C_3 alkyl)-(C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl), -(C_1-C_4 alkyl)-A', or A', wherein the alkyl groups and the cycloalkyl groups in the definition of R^2 are optionally substituted with hydroxy, -CO2 X^6, -$CONX^6X^6$, -NX^6X^6, -SO_m(C_1-C_6 alkyl), - COA', -COX^6, CF_3, CN, or 1, 2, or 3 independently selected halo groups;

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of A', C_1-C_{10} alkyl, -(C_1-C_6 alkyl)-A', - (C_1-C_6 alkyl)-(C_3-C_1 cycloalkyl), -(C_1-C_5 alkyl)-X'-(C_1-C_5 alkyl), -(C_1-C_5 alkyl)-X'-(C_o-C_5 alkyl)-A', and -(C_1-C_5 alkyl)-X'-(C_1-C_5 alkyl)-(C_3-C_1 cycloalkyl);

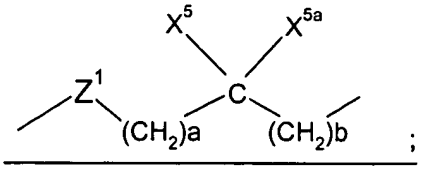
wherein the alkyl groups in the definition of R^3 are optionally substituted with -SO_m(C_1-C_6 alkyl), -CO2 X^3, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 independently selected halo groups, or 1, 2, or 3 independently selected -OX^3 groups;

X' is O, SO_m, -NX^2CO-, -$CONX^2$-, -OCO-, -CO_2-, -CX^2=CX^2-, -NX^2CO_2-, -$OCONX^2$-, or -C≡C-;

R^4 is hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, or C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl, or R^4 taken together with R^3 and the carbon atom to which they are attached form C_5-C_1 cycloalkyl, C_5-C_1 cycloalkenyl, a partially saturated or fully saturated 4- to 8-membered ring having 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur, and nitrogen, or a bicyclic ring system consisting of a partially saturated or fully saturated 5- or 6-membered ring, fused to a partially saturated, fully unsaturated, or fully saturated 5- or 6-membered ring, optionally having 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, sulfur, and oxygen;

X^4 is hydrogen or C_1-C_6 alkyl, or X^4 is taken together with R^4 and the nitrogen atom to which X^4 is attached and the carbon atom to which R^4 is attached and form a five to seven membered ring;

R^6 is a bond or is



;

wherein a and b are each independently O, 1, 2, or 3;

X^5 and X5a are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, CF_3, A', and C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted with A', OX^2, - SO_2-(C_1-C_6 alkyl), -CO_2 X2, C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl, -NX^2X^2, or -$CONX^2X^2$;

or the carbon bearing X^5 or X^{5a} forms one or two alkylene bridges with the nitrogen atom bearing R^7 and R^8 wherein each alkylene bridge contains 1 to 5 carbon atoms, provided that when one alkylene bridge is formed then only one of X^5 or X^5a is on the carbon atom and only one of R^7 or R^8 is on the nitrogen atom, and further provided that when two alkylene bridges are formed then X^5 and X^{5a} cannot be on the carbon atom and R^7 and R^8 cannot be on the nitrogen atom;

or X^5 taken together with X^{5a} and the carbon atom to which they are attached form a partially saturated or fully saturated 3- to 7-membered ring, or a partially saturated or fully saturated 4- to 8-membered ring having 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur, and nitrogen;

or X^5 taken together with X^{5a} and the carbon atom to which they are attached form a bicyclic ring system consisting of a partially saturated or fully saturated 5- or 6-membered ring, optionally having 1 or 2 heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, sulfur, and 3O

oxygen, fused to a partially saturated, fully saturated, or fully unsaturated 5- or 6-membered ring, optionally having 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, sulfur, and oxygen;

Z^1 is a bond, O, or N-X^2, provided that when a and b are both O then Z' is not N-X^2 or O;

R^7 and R^8 are each independently hydrogen or C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally independently substituted with A', -CO_2-(C_1-C_6 alkyl), -SO_m(C_1-C_6 alkyl), 1 to 5 halo groups, 1 to 3 hydroxy groups, 1 to 3 -O-CO(C_1-C_{10} alkyl) groups, or 1 to 3 C_1-C_6 alkoxy groups; or

R^7 and R^8 can be taken together to form -(CH_2), L-(CH_2)$_r$-, wherein L is CX^2X^2, SO_n, or NX^2;

R^9 and $R^{'o}$ are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, fluoro, hydroxy, and C_1-C5 alkyl optionally independently substituted with 1-5 halo groups;

R^{11} is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_5 alkyl and phenyl optionally substituted with 1-3 substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_5 alkyl, halo, and C_1-C_5 alkoxy;

R^{12} is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_5 alkylsulfonyl, C_1-C_5 alkanoyl, and C_1-C_5 alkyl wherein the alkyl portion is optionally independently substituted by 1-5 halo groups;

A^1 for each occurrence is independently selected from the group consisting of C_5-C7 cycloalkenyl, phenyl, a partially saturated, fully saturated, or fully unsaturated 4to 8-membered ring optionally having 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur, and nitrogen, and a bicyclic ring system consisting of a partially saturated, fully unsaturated, or fully

saturated 5- or 6 membered ring, optionally having 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, sulfur, and oxygen, fused to a partially saturated, fully saturated, or fully unsaturated 5- or 6-membered ring, optionally having 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, sulfur, and oxygen;

A^1 for each occurrence is independently optionally substituted, on one or optionally both rings if A' is a bicyclic ring system, with up to three substituents, each substituent independently selected from the group consisting of F, Cl, Br, I, OCF_3, OCF_2H, CF_3, CH_3, OCH_3, $-OX^6$, $-CONX^6X^6$, $-CO_2X^6$, oxo, C_1-C_6 alkyl, nitro, cyano, benzyl, $-SO_m(C_1$-C_6 alkyl), 1 H-tetrazol-5-yl, phenyl, phenoxy, phenylalkyloxy, halophenyl, methylenedioxy, $-NX^6X^6$, $-NX^6COX^6$, $-SO_2NX^6X^!$, $-NX^6SO_2$-phenyl, $NX^6SO_2X^6$, $-CONX^{11}X^{12}$, $-SO_2NX^{11}X^{12}$, $-NX^6SO_2X^{12}$, $-NX^6CONX^{11}X^{12}$, $-NX^6SO_2NX^{11}X^{12}$, $-NX^6COX^{12}$, imidazolyl, thiazolyl, and tetrazolyl, provided that if A^1 is optionally substituted with methylenedioxy then it can only be substituted with one methylenedioxy;

wherein X^{11} is hydrogen or C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally independently substituted with phenyl, phenoxy, C_1-C_6 alkoxycarbonyl, $-SO_M(C_1$-C_6 alkyl), 1 to 5 halo groups, 1 to 3 hydroxy groups, 1 to 3 C_1- C_{10} alkanoyloxy groups, or 1 to 3 C_1-C_6 alkoxy groups;

X^{12} is hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, phenyl, thiazolyl, imidazolyl, furyl, or thienyl, provided that when X'^2 is not hydrogen, the X'^2 group is optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of Cl, F, CH_3, OCH_3, OCF_3, and C F3;

or X" and X'^2 are taken together to form -(CH2)r-L^1-$(CH_2)_r$, wherein L^1 is CX^2X^2, O, SO_m or NX^2;

r for each occurrence is independently 1, 2, or 3;

X^2 for each occurrence is independently hydrogen, optionally substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl, or optionally substituted C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl, wherein the optionally substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl and optionally substituted C_3-C_1 cycloalkyl in the definition of X^2 are optionally independently substituted with $-SO_m(C_1$-C_6 alkyl), -CO2 X^3, 1 to 5 halo groups, or 1-3 OX^3 groups;

X^3 for each occurrence is independently hydrogen or C_1-C_6 alkyl;

X^6 for each occurrence is independently hydrogen, optionally substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl, halogenated C_2-C_6 alkyl, optionally substituted C_3-C7 cycloalkyl, halogenated C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl, wherein the optionally substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl and optionally substituted C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl in the definition of X^6 are optionally independently mono-or di-substituted with C_1-C_4 alkyl, hydroxy, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, carboxyl, $CONH_2$, $-SO_m(C_1C_6$ alkyl), carboxylate (C_1-C_4 alkyl) ester, or 1 H-tetrazol-5-yl; or

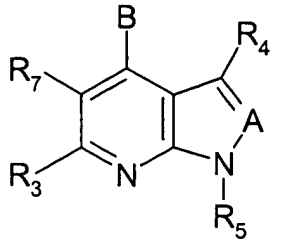
when there are two X^6 groups on one atom and both X^6 are independently C_1C_6 alkyl, the two C_1-C_6 alkyl groups may be optionally joined, and together with the atom to which the two X^6 groups are attached, form a 4- to 9- membered ring optionally having oxygen, sulfur, or NX^7 as a ring member, wherein X^7 is hydrogen or C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted with hydroxy;

m for each occurrence is independently O, 1, or 2; with the provisos that:

X^6 and X'2 cannot be hydrogen when attached to CO or SO_2 in the form COX^6, COX'^2, SO2 X^6 or $SO_2X'^2$; and

when R^6 is a bond then L is NX^2 and each r in the definition -(CH_2), L-(CH_2), is independently 2 or 3..

5. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 wherein said corticotropin releasing factor antagonist is a compound of formula



and the pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts thereof, wherein

A is N or $-CR_6$;

B is $-NR_1R_2$, $-CR_1R_2R_{11}$, $-C(=CR_2R_{12})R_1$, $-NHCHR_1R_2$, $-OCHR_1R_2$, $-SCHR_1R_2$, $-CHR_2OR_{12}$, $-CHR_2SR_{12}$, $-C(S)R_1$ or $-C(O)R_1$;

R_1 is C_1-C_6 alkyl which may optionally be substituted with one or two substituents independently selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, -O-CO-(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -O-CO-NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -O-CO-N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), -NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -N(C_1-C_2 alkyl)(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -S(C_1-C_4alkyl), -N(C_1-C_4alkyl)CO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -NHCO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -COO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -CONH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -CON(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), CN, NO_2, -SO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -SO_2(C_1-C_4 alkyl), and wherein any of the foregoing C_1-C_4 alkyl and C_1-C_6 alkyl groups may optionally contain one carbon-carbon double or triple bond;

R_2 is C_1-C_{12} alkyl, aryl, -(C_1-C_4 alkylene)aryl wherein said aryl is phenyl, naphthyl, thienyl, benzothienyl, pyridyl, quinolyl, pyrazinyl, pyrimidyl, imidazolyl, furanyl, benzofuranyl, benzothiazolyl, isothiazolyl, benzisothiazolyl, thiazolyl, isoxazolyl, benzisoxazolyl, benzimidazolyl, triazolyl, pyrazolyl, pyrrolyl, indolyl, oxazolyl, or benzoxazolyl; or 3- to 8- membered cycloalkyl or -(C_1-C_6 alkylene)cycloalkyl, wherein one or two of the ring carbons of said cycloalkyl having at least 4 ring members and the cycloalkyl moiety of said -(C_1-C_6 alkylene)cycloalkyl having at least 4 ring members may optionally be replaced by an oxygen or sulfur atom or by N-Z wherein Z is hydrogen; or C_1-C_4 alkyl, and wherein each of said groups R_2 may optionally be substituted with from one to three substituents independently selected from chloro, fluoro, and C_1-C_4 alkyl, or by one substituent selected from bromo, iodo, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, -O-CO-(C_1-C_6 alkyl), -S(C_1-C_6 alkyl), -COO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), CN, NO_2, -SO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), and -SO_2(C_1-C_4 alkyl), and wherein said C_1-C_{12} alkyl and the C_1-C_4 alkylene moiety of said -(C_1-C_4 alkylene)aryl may optionally contain one carbon-carbon double or triple bond; or $-NR_1R_2$ may form a saturated 5- to 8-membered heterocyclic ring, or $-CHR_1R_2$ may form a saturated 5- to 8-membered carbocyclic ring, wherein each of these rings may optionally contain one or two carbon-carbon double bonds and wherein one or two of the carbon atoms of each of these rings may optionally be replaced with a sulfur or oxygen atom;

R_3 is C_1-C_4 alkyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, $-CH_2OH$, $-CH_2OCH_3$, -O(C_1-C_3 alkyl), -S(C_1-C_3 alkyl), or -SO_2(C_1-C_3alkyl), wherein said C1-C_3 alkyl may optionally contain one carbon-carbon double or triple bond;

R_4 is hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, amino, $-NHCH_3$, $-N(CH_3)_2$, -

CH_2OH, $-CH_2OCH_3$, or $-SO_n(C_1-C_4$ alkyl), wherein n is O, 1 or 2, cyano, hydroxy, $-CO(C_1-C_4$ alkyl), -CHO, Or $-COO(C_1-C_4$ alkyl) wherein the C_1-C_4 alkyl moieties in the foregoing R_4 groups may optionally contain one carbon-carbon double or triple bond;

R_5 is phenyl, naphthyl, thienyl, benzothienyl, pyridyl, pyrimidyl, benzofuranyl, pyrazinyl or benzothiazolyl, wherein each one of said groups R_5 may optionally be substituted with from one to three substituents independently selected from fluoro, chloro, C_1-C_6 alkyl and C1-C_6 alkoxy, or by one substituent selected from iodo, hydroxy, bromo, formyl, cyano, nitro, amino, trifluoromethyl, $-NH(C_1-C_4$ alkyl), $-N(C_1-C_6)(C_1-C_2$ alkyl), $-COO(C_1-C_4$ alkyl), $-CO(C_1-C_4$ alkyl), -COON, $-SO_2NH(C_1-C_4$ alkyl), $-SO_2N(C_1-C_4$ alkyl)$(C_1-C_2$ alkyl), $-SO_2NH_2$, $-NHSO_2(C_1-C_4$ alkyl), $-S(C_1-C_6$ alkyl) and $-SO_2(C_1-C_6$ alkyl), wherein each of said C_1-C_4 alkyl and C_1-C_6 alkyl moieties in the foregoing R^5 groups may optionally be substituted with one to three fluorine atoms;

R_6 is hydrogen, C_1-C_4 alkyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, $-CH_2OH$, $-CH_2OCH_3$, or C_1-C_4 alkoxy;

R_7 is hydrogen, C_1-C_4 alkyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, $-O(C_1-C_4$ alkyl), cyano, $-CH_2OH$, $-CH_2O(C_1-C_2$ alkyl), $-CO(C_1-C_2$ alkyl), or $-COO(C_1-C_2$ alkyl);

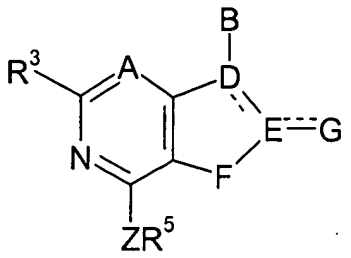
$R_{11}$is hydrogen, hydroxy, fluoro, or methoxy; and

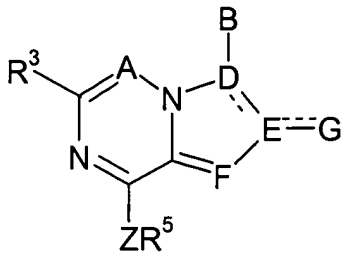
R_{12} is hydrogen or C_1-C_4 alkyl;

with the proviso that when A is N, then: (a) B is not unsubstituted alkyl; (b) R_5 is not unsubstituted phenyl or monosubstituted phenyl; and (c) R_3 is not unsubstituted alkyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of such compound.

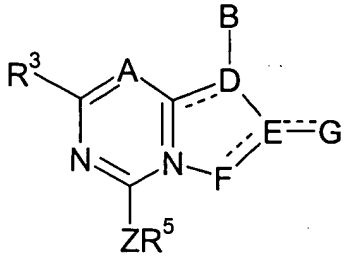
6. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 wherein said corticotropin releasing factor antagonist is a compound of formula



,


,

or



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

the dashed lines represent optional double bonds;

A is nitrogen or CR^7;

B is $-NR^1R^2$, $-CR^1R^2R^{10}$, $-C(=CR^2R^{11})R^1$, $-NHCR^1R^2R^{10}$, $-OCR^1R^2R^{10}$, $-SCR^1R^2R^{10}$, $-CR^2R^{10}NHR^1$, $-CR^2R^{10}OR^1$, $-CR^2R^{10}SR^1$ or $-COR^2$;

D is nitrogen and is single bonded to all atoms to which it is attached, or D is carbon and is either double bonded to E in formulas I and II or double bonded to the adjacent carbon atom common to both fused rings in formula III, or D is CH and is single bonded to E in formulas I and II;

E is nitrogen, CH or carbon;

F is oxygen, sulfur, CHR^4 or NR^4 when it is single bonded to E and F is nitrogen or CR^4 when it is double bonded to E;

G, when single bonded to E, is hydrogen, C_1-C_4 alkyl, -S(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -O(C_1-C_4 alkyl), NH_2, -NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl) or -N(C_1-C_2 alkyl)(C_1-C_4 alkyl), wherein each of the C_1-C_4 alkyl groups of G may optionally be substituted with one hydroxy, -O(C_1-C_2 alkyl) or fluoro group; G, when double bonded to E, is oxygen, sulfur or NH; and G, when E is nitrogen and double bonded to D or F, is absent;

R^1 is hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted with one or two substituents R^8 independently selected from hydroxy, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, CF_3, -C(=O)O-(C_1-C_4)alkyl, -OC(=O)(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -OC(=O)N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), -NHCO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -COON, -COO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -CONH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -CON(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), -S(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -CN, $-NO_2$, -SO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), $-SO_2$(C_1-C_4 alkyl), $-SO_2NH$(C_1-C_4 alkyl) and $-SO_2N$(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), wherein each of

the C_1-C_4 alkyl groups in the foregoing R' groups may optionally contain one or two double or triple bonds;

R^2 is C_1-C_{12} alkyl which may optionally contain from one to three double or triple bonds, aryl or (C_1-C_4 alkylene)aryl, wherein said aryl and the aryl moiety of said (C_1-C_4 alkylene)aryl is selected from phenyl, naphthyl, thienyl, benzothienyl, pyridyl, quinolyl, pyrazinyl, pyrimidinyl, imidazolyl, furanyl, benzofuranyl, benzothiazolyl, isothiazolyl, pyrazolyl, pyrrolyl, indolyl, pyrrolopyridyl, oxazolyl and benzoxazolyl; C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl or (C_1-C_6 alkylene)(C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl), wherein one or two of the carbon atoms of said cycloalkyl and the 5 to 8 membered cycloalkyl moieties of said (C_1-C_6 alkylene)(C3-CS cycloalkyl) may optionally and independently be replaced by an oxygen or sulfur atom or by NZ^2 wherein Z^2 is selected from hydrogen, C_1-C_4 alkyl, benzyl and C_1-C_4 alkanoyl, and wherein each of the foregoing R^2 groups may optionally be substituted with from one to three substituents independently selected from chloro, fluoro, hydroxy and C_1-C_4 alkyl, or with one substituent selected from bromo, iodo, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, -OC(=O)(C_1-C_6 alkyl), -OC(=O)N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), -S(C_1-C_6 alkyl), amino, -NH(C_1-C_2 alkyl), -N(C_1-C_2 alkyl)(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)-CO-(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -NHCO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -COON, -COO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -CONH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -CON(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), -SH, -CN, -NO_2, -SO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -SO_2(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -SO_2NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl) and -SO_2N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl); -NR'R^2 or CR'R^2R'° may form a saturated 3 to 8 membered carbocyclic ring which may optionally contain from one to three double bonds and wherein one or two of the ring carbon atoms of such 5 to 8 membered rings may optionally and independently be replaced by an oxygen or sulfur atom or by NZ^3 wherein Z^3 is hydrogen, C_1-C_4 alkyl, benzyl or C_1-C_4 alkanoyl;

R^3 is hydrogen, C_1-C_4 alkyl, -O(C_1-C_4 alkyl), chloro, fluoro, bromo, iodo, -CN, -S(C_1-C_4 alkyl) or -SO_2(C_1-C_4 alkyl) wherein each of the (C_1-C_4 alkyl) moieties in the foregoing R^3 groups may optionally be substituted with one substituent R^9 selected from hydroxy, fluoro and (C1-C_2 alkoxy);

each R^4 is, independently, hydrogen, (C_1-C_6 alkyl), fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, hydroxy, cyano, amino, nitro, -O(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), -S(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -SO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -SO_2(C_1-C_4)alkyl, -CO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -C(=O)H or -C(=O)O(C_1.C_4alkyl), wherein each of the (C_1-C_6 alkyl) and (C_1-C_4 alkyl) moieties in the foregoing R^4 groups may optionally contain one or two double or triple bonds and may optionally be substituted with one or two substituents independently selected from hydroxy, amino, C_1-C_3 alkoxy, dimethylamino, methylamino, ethylamino, -NHC(=O)CH_3, fluoro, chloro, C_1-C_3 thioalkyl, -CN, -COON, -C(=O)O(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -C(=O)(C_1-C_4 alkyl) and -NO_2;

R^5 is phenyl, naphthyl, thienyl, benzothienyl, pyridyl, quinolyl, pyrazinyl, furanyl, benzofuranyl, benzothiazolyl, benzisothiazolyl, benzisoxazolyl, benzimidazolyl, indolyl, benzoxazolyl or C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl wherein one or two of the carbon atoms of said cycloalkyl rings that contain at least 5 ring members may optionally and independently be replaced by an oxygen or sulfur atom or by NZ^4 wherein Z^4 is hydrogen, C_1-C_4 alkyl or benzyl; and wherein each of the foregoing R^5 groups is substituted with from one to four substituents R^{12} wherein one to three of said substituents

may be selected, independently, from chloro, C_1-C_6 alkyl and -O(C_1-C_6 alkyl) and one of said substituents may be selected from bromo, iodo, formyl, -CN, $-CF_3$, $-NO_2$, $-NH_2$, -NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -N(C_1-C_2 alkyl)(C_1-C_6 alkyl), -C(=O)O(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -C(=O)(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -COON, $-SO_2NH$(C_1-C_4 alkyl), $-SO_2N$(C_1-C_2 alkyl)(C_1-C_4 alkyl), - SO_2NH_2, $-NHSO_2$(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -S(C_1-C_6 alkyl) and - SO_2(C_1-C_6 alkyl), and wherein each of the C_1-C_4 alkyl and C_1-C_6 alkyl moieties in the foregoing R^5 groups may optionally be substituted with one or two substituents independently selected from fluoro, hydroxy, amino, methylamino, dimethylamino and acetyl;

R^7 is hydrogen, C_1-C_4 alkyl, halo, cyano, hydroxy, -O(C_1-C_4 alkyl) -C(=O)(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -C(=O)O(C_1-C_4alkyl), $-OCF_3$, $-CF_3$, $-CH_2OH$, $-CH_2O$(C_1-C_4 alkyl);

R^{10} is hydrogen, hydroxy, methoxy or fluoro;

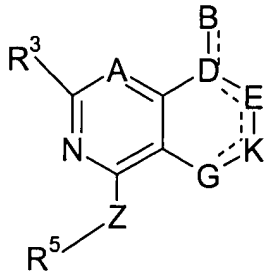
$R^{11}$is hydrogen or C_1-C_4 alkyl; and

Z is NH, oxygen, sulfur, -N(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -NC(=O)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), NC(=O)O(C_1-C_2alkyl) or $CR^{13}R^{14}$wherein R^{13} and R^{14} are independently selected from hydrogen, trifluoromethyl and methyl with the exception that one of R^{13} and R^{14}can be cyano;

with the proviso that: (a) in the five membered rings of structures I, II and III, there can not be two double bonds adjacent to each other; and (b) when R^4 is attached to nitrogen, it is not halo, cyano or nitro;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of such compound.

7. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 wherein said corticotropin releasing factor antagonist is a compound of formula



wherein the dashed lines represent optional double bonds;

A is nitrogen or CR^7;

B is $-NR^1R^2$, $-CR^1R^2R^{10}$, $-C(=CR^2R^{11})R^1$, $-NHCR^1R^2R^{11}$, $-OCR^1R^2R^{10}$, $-SCR^1R^2R^{10}$, - $CR^2R^{10}NHR^1$, $-CR^2R^{10}OR^1$, $-CR^2R^{10}SR^1$ or $-COR^2$, and is single bonded to D; or B is $-CR^1R^2$, and is double bonded to D and D is carbon;

D is nitrogen or CR^4 and is single bonded to all atoms to which it is attached, or D is carbon and is double bonded to E or double bonded to B;

E is oxygen, nitrogen, sulfur, C=O, C=S, CR^6R^{12}, NR^6 or CR^6; or E is a two atom spacer, wherein one of the atoms is oxygen, nitrogen, sulfur, C=O, C=S, CR^6R^{12}, NR^6 or CR^6, and the other is CR^6R^{12} or CR^9;

K and G are each, independently, C=O, C=S, sulfur, oxygen, CHR^8 or NR^8 when single bonded to both adjacent ring atoms, or nitrogen or CR^8 when it is double bonded to an adjacent ring atom;

the 6- or 7-membered ring that contains D, E, K and G may contain from one to three double bonds, from zero to two heteroatoms selected from oxygen, nitrogen and sulfur, and from zero to two C=O or C=S groups, wherein the carbon atoms of such groups are part of the ring and the oxygen and sulfur atoms are substituents on the ring;

R^1 is C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted with from one or two substituents independently selected from hydroxy, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, CF_3, -C(=O)(C_1-C_4alkyl), -C(=O)-O-(C_1-C_4)alkyl, -OC(=O)(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -OC(=O)N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), -NHCO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -COON, -COO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -CONH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -CON(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), -S(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -CN, -NO_2, -SO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -SO_2(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -SO_2NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl) and -SO_2N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), wherein each of the C_1-C_4 alkyl groups in the foregoing R^1 groups may optionally contain one or two double or triple bonds;

R^2 is C_1-C_{12} alkyl which may optionally contain from one to three double or triple bonds, aryl or (C_1-C_4 alkylene)aryl, wherein said aryl and the aryl moiety of said (C_1-C_4 alkylene)aryl is selected from phenyl, naphthyl, thienyl, benzothienyl, pyridyl, quinolyl, pyrazinyl, pyrimidinyl, imidazolyl, furanyl; benzofuranyl, benzothiazolyl, isothiazolyl, pyrazolyl, pyrrolyl, indolyl, pyrrolopyridyl, oxazolyl and benzoxazolyl; C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl or (C_1-C_6 alkylene)(C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl), wherein one or two of the carbon atoms of said cycloalkyl and the 5 to 8 membered cycloalkyl moieties of said (C_1-C_6 alkylene)(C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl may optionally and independently be replaced by an oxygen or sulfur and wherein each of the foregoing R^2 groups may optionally be substituted with from one to three substituents independently selected from chloro, fluoro, hydroxy and C_1-C_4 alkyl, or with one substituent selected from C_1-C_6 alkoxy, -OC(=O)(C_1-C_6 alkyl), -OC(=O)N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), -S(C_1-C_6 alkyl), amino, -NH(C_1-CZ alkyl), -N(C_1-CZ alkyl)(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)-CO-(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -NHCO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -COON, -COO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -CONH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -CON(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(Cl-C2 alkyl), -SH, -CN, -NO2, -SO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -SO_2(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -SO_2NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl) and -SO_2N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl);

-NR'R^2 or CR'R^2R'° may form a ring selected from saturated 3 to 8 membered rings, the 5 to 8 membered rings of which may optionally contain one or two double bonds, and wherein one or two of the ring carbon atoms of such 5 to 8 membered rings may optionally and independently be replaced by an oxygen or sulfur atom or by NZ^3 wherein Z^3 is hydrogen or C_1-C_4 alkyl;

R^3 is hydrogen, C_1-C_4 alkyl, -O(C_1-C_4 alkyl), chloro, fluoro, bromo, iodo, -S(C_1-C_4 alkyl) or -SO_2(C_1-C_4 alkyl);

R^4 is hydrogen, C_1-C_2 alkyl, hydroxy or fluoro;

each R^6, R^8 and R^9 that is attached to a carbon atom is selected, independently, from hydrogen, C_1-C_2 alkyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, hydroxy, hydroxymethyl, formyl, trifluoromethyl, cyano, amino, nitro, -O(C_1-C_2 alkyl), -N(C_1-C_2 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), -S(C_1-C_2 alkyl), -CO(C_1-C_2 alkyl), -C(=O)H or -C(=O)O(C_1-C2 alkyl), wherein each of the C_1-C_2 alkyl moieties in the foregoing R^6, R^S, and R^9 groups may optionally contain one double or triple bond; and each R^6, R^8, and R^9 that is attached to a nitrogen atom is selected, independently, from hydrogen and C_1-C_4 alkyl;

R^5 is substituted phenyl, naphthyl, pyridyl or pyrimidyl, wherein each of the foregoing R^5 groups is

substituted with from two to four substituents R'^{S}, wherein from one to three of said substituents may be selected, independently, from chloro, C_1-C_6 alkyl, -O(C_1-C_6 alkyl) and -(C_1-C_6alkylene)O(C_1-C_6alkyl), and wherein one of said substituents may be selected, independently, from bromo, iodo, formyl, cyano, trifluoromethyl, nitro, amino, -NH(Cl-C_4 alkyl), -N(C_1-C_2 alkyl)(C_1-C_6 alkyl), -C(=O)O(C_1-C4 alkyl), -C(=O)(C_1-C4 alkyl), -COON, -SO_2NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -SO_2N(C_1-C_2 alkyl)(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -SO_2NH_2, -NHSO_2(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -S(C_1-C_6 alkyl) and -SO_2(C_1-C_6 alkyl), and wherein each of the C_1-C_4 alkyl and C_1-C_6 alkyl moieties in the foregoing R^5 groups may optionally be substituted with one or two substituents independently selected from fluoro, hydroxy, amino, methylamino, dimethylamino and acetyl;

R^7 is hydrogen, methyl, halo, hydroxy, methoxy, -C(=O)(C_1-C2 alkyl), -C(=O)O(C_1-C2 alkyl), trifluoromethoxy, hydroxymethyl, trifluoromethyl or formyl;

R^{10} is hydrogen, hydroxy, methoxy or fluoro;

R^{11} is hydrogen or C_1-C_4 alkyl;

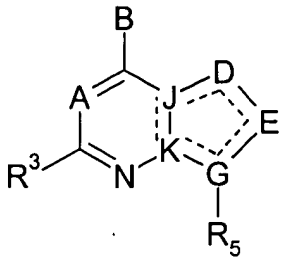
R^{12} is hydrogen or methyl; and

Z is NH, oxygen, sulfur, -N(C_1-C_4 alkyl), or CR'^3R^{14} wherein R^{13} and R^{14} are independently selected from hydrogen, and methyl with the exception that one of R^{13} and R^{14} may optionally be cyano;

with the proviso that: (a) in the six or seven membered rings of structures in formula I, there can not be two double bonds adjacent to each other; and (b) when D is carbon and is double bonded to B, then B is CR^1R^2;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of such compound.

8. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 wherein said corticotropin releasing factor antagonist is a compound of



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein the dashed lines represent optional double bonds;

A is nitrogen or CR^7;

B is $-NR^1R^2$, $-CR^1R^2R^{10}$ $-C(=CR^2R^{11})R^1$, $-NHCR^1R^2R^{10}$, $-OCR^1R^2R^{10}$, $-SCR^1R^2R^{10}$, $-CR^2R^{10}NHR^1$, $-CR^2R^{10}OR^1$, $-CR^2R^{10}SR^1$ or $-COR^2$;

J and K are each independently nitrogen or carbon and both J and K are not 15 nitrogens;

D and E are each selected, independently, from nitrogen, CR^4, C=O, C=S, sulfur, oxygen, CR^4 R^6 and NR^8;

G is nitrogen or carbon;

the ring containing D, E, G, K, and J in formula I may be a saturated or unsaturated 5-membered ring

and may optionally contain one or two double bonds and may optionally contain from one to three heteroatoms in the ring and may optionally have one or two C=O or C=S groups;

R^1 is C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted with one or two substituents independently selected from hydroxy, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, -O-(C_1-C_4 alkyl), CF_3, -C(=O)O-(C_1-C_4alkyl), -OC(=O)(C_1-C4 alkyl), -OC(=O)N(C_1-C4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), -NHCO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -COON, -COO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -CONH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -CON(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), -S(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -CN, -NO_2, -SO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -SO_2(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -SO_2NH(C_1-C4 alkyl) and -SO_2N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), wherein each of the C_1-C_4 alkyl groups in the foregoing R' groups may optionally contain one or two double or triple bonds;

R^2 is C_1-C12 alkyl which may optionally contain from one to three double or triple bonds, aryl or (C_1-C_4 alkylene)aryl, wherein said aryl and the aryl moiety of said (C_1-C_4 alkylene)aryl is selected from phenyl, naphthyl, thienyl, benzothienyl, pyridyl, quinolyl, pyrazinyl, pyrimidinyl, imidazolyl, furanyl, benzofuranyl, benzothiazolyl,isothiazolyl, pyrazolyl, pyrrolyl, indolyl, pyrrolopyridyl, oxazolyl and benzoxazolyl; C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl or (C_1-C_6 alkylene)(C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl), wherein one or two of the carbon atoms of said cycloalkyl and the 5 to 8 membered cycloalkyl moieties of said (C_1-C_6 alkylene)(C_3-C_9 cycloalkyl) may optionally and independently be replaced by an oxygen or sulfur atom or by NZ^2 wherein Z^2 is selected from hydrogen, C_1-C_4 alkyl, benzyl and C_1-C_4 alkanoyl, and wherein each of the foregoing R^2 groups may optionally be substituted with from one to three substituents independently selected from chloro, fluoro, hydroxy and C_1-C_4 alkyl, or with one substituent selected from bromo, iodo, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, -OC(=O)(C_1-C6 alkyl), -OC(=O)N(C_1-C4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), -S(C_1-C_6 alkyl), amino, -NH(C_1-C_2 alkyl), -N(C_1-C_2 alkyl)(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)-CO-(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -NHCO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -COON, -OOO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -CONH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -CON(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), -SH, -CN, -NO_2, -SO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -SO_2(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -SO_2NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl) and -SO_2N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl); -NR^1R^2 or $CR^1R^2R^{10}$ may form a saturated 3 to 8 membered carbocyclic ring which may optionally contain from one to three double bonds and wherein one or two of the ring carbon atoms of such 5 to 8 membered rings may optionally and independently be replaced by an oxygen or sulfur atom or by NZ^3 wherein Z^3 is hydrogen, C_1-C_4 alkyl, benzyl or C_1-C_4 alkanoyl;

R^3 is hydrogen, C_1-C_4 alkyl, -O(C_1-C_4 alkyl), chloro, fluoro, bromo, iodo, (C_1-C_2 alkylene)-O-(C_1-C_2 alkyl), (C_1-C_2 alkylene)-OH, or -S(C_1-C_4 alkyl);

each R^4 is, independently, hydrogen, (C_1-C_6 alkyl), fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, hydroxy, cyano, amino, (C_1-C_2 alkylene)-OH, CF_3, CH_2SCH_3, nitro, -O(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), -S(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -CO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -C(=O)H or -C(=O)O(C_1-C_4alkyl);

R^6 is hydrogen, methyl or ethyl;

R^8 is hydrogen or C_1-C_4 alkyl;

R^5 is phenyl, pyridyl, pyrazinyl, pyrimidyl, pyridazinyl and wherein each of the foregoing R^5 groups is substituted with from one to four substituents R'^3 wherein one to three of said substituents may be selected, independently, from fluoro, chloro, C_1-C_6 alkyl and -O(C_1-C_6 alkyl) and one of said substituents may be selected from bromo, iodo, formyl, OH, (C_1-C_4 alkylene)-OH, (C_1-C_4alkylene)-O-(C_1-C_2 alkyl), -CN, -CF_3, -NO_2, -NH_2, -NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -N(C_1-C_2alkyl)(C_1-C_6 alkyl), -OCO(C_1-C_4 alkyl),

(C_1-C_4 alkylene)-O-(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -S(C_1-C_6 alkyl), (C_1-C_4 alkylene)-S-(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -C(=O)O(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -C(=O)(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -COON, -SO_2NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -SO_2N(C_1-C_2 alkyl)(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -SO_2NH_2, -NHSO_2(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -S(C_1-C_6 alkyl) and -SO_2(C_1-C_6 alkyl), and wherein each of the C_1-C_4 alkyl and C_1-C_6 alkyl moieties in the foregoing R^5 groups may optionally have one or two double bonds;

R^7 is hydrogen, C_1-C_4 alkyl, halo (e.g., chloro, fluoro, iodo or bromo), hydroxy, -O(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -C(=O)(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -C(=O)O(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -OCF_3, -CF_3, -CH_2OH or -CH_2O(C_1-C_2 alkyl);

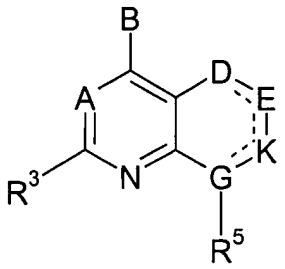
R^{10} is hydrogen, hydroxy, methoxy or fluoro;

$R^{11}$is hydrogen or C_1-C_4 alkyl; and

with the proviso that: a) when both J and K are carbons and D is CR^4 and E is nitrogen, then G can not be nitrogen; (b) when both J and K are carbons and D and G are nitrogens, then E can not be CR^4 or C=O or C=S; (c) when both J and K are carbons and D and E are carbons, then G can not be nitrogen; (d) when G is carbon, it must be double banded to E; and (e) in the ring containing J, K, D, E and G, there can not be two double bonds adjacent to each other;

and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts of such compounds or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of such compound.

9. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 wherein said corticotropin releasing factor antagonist is a compound of formula



wherein the dashed lines represent optional double bonds;

A is nitrogen or CR^7;

B is –NR^1R^2, -$CR^1R^2R^{10}$, -C(=CR^2R^{11})R^1, -NHC$R^1R^2R^{10}$, -OC$R^1R^2R^{10}$, -SC$R^1R^2R^{10}$, -$CR^2R^{10}NHR^1$, -$CR^2R^{10}OR^1$, -$CR^2R^{10}SR^1$ or -COR^2;

G is nitrogen or CR^4 and is single bonded to all atoms to which it is attached, or G is carbon and is double bonded to K;

K is nitrogen or CR^6 when double bonded to G or E, or K is oxygen, sulfur, C=O, C=S, CR^6R^{12} or NR^8 when single bonded to both adjacent ring atoms, or K is a two atom spacer, wherein one of the two ring atoms of the spacer is oxygen, nitrogen, sulfur, C=O, C=S, CR^6R^{12}, NR^6 or CR^6, and the other is CR^6R^{12} or CR^9;

D and E are each, independently, C=O, C=S, sulfur, oxygen, CR^4R^6 or NR^8 when single bonded to both adjacent ring atoms, or nitrogen or CR^4 when it is double bonded to an adjacent ring atom;

the 6- or 7-membered ring that contains D, E, K and G may contain from one to three double bonds, from zero to two heteroatoms selected from oxygen, nitrogen and sulfur, and from zero to

two C=O or C=S groups, wherein the carbon atoms of such groups are part of the ring and the oxygen and sulfur atoms are substituents on the ring;

R^1 is C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted with from one or two substituents independently selected from hydroxy, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, ClC_4 alkoxy, CF_3, -C(=O)(C_1-C_4alkyl), -C(=O)-O-(C_1-C_4)alkyl, -OC(=O)(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -OC(=O)N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), -NHCO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -COON, -COO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -CONH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -CON(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), -S(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -CN, -NO_2, -SO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -SO_2(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -SO_2NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl) and -SO_2N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), wherein each of the C_1-C_4 alkyl groups in the foregoing R' groups may optionally contain one or two double or triple bonds;

R^2 is C_1-C_{12} alkyl which may optionally contain from one to three double or triple bonds, aryl or (C_1-C_4 alkylene)aryl, wherein said aryl and the aryl moiety of said (C_1-C_4 alkylene)aryl is selected from phenyl, naphthyl, thienyl, benzothienyl, pyridyl, quinolyl, pyrazoyl, pyrimidinyl, imidazolyl, furanyl, benzofuranyl, benzothiazolyl, isothiazolyl, pyrazolyl, pyrrolyl, indolyl, pyrrolopyridyl, oxazolyl and benzoxazolyl; C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl or (C_1-C_6 alkylene)(C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl), wherein one or two of the carbon atoms of said cycloalkyl and the 5 to 8 membered cycloalkyl moieties of said (C_1-C_6 alkylene)(C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl may optionally and independently be replaced by an oxygen or sulfur atom or by NZ wherein Z is hydrogen, C_1-C_4 alkyl or benzyl, and wherein each of the foregoing R^2 groups may optionally be substituted with from one to three substituents independently selected from chloro, fluoro, hydroxy and C_1-C_4 alkyl, or with one substituent selected from C_1-C_6 alkoxy, -OC(=O)(C_1-C_6 alkyl), -OC(=O)N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), -S(C_1-C_6 alkyl), amino, -NH(C_1-C_2 alkyl), -N(C_1-C_2 alkyl)(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)-CO-(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -NHCO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -COON, -COO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -CONH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -CON(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), -SH, -CN, -NO_2, -SO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -SO_2(Cl-C_4 alkyl), -SO_2NH(Cl-C_4 alkyl) and -SO_2N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl);

-NR'R^2 or $CR^1R^2R^{10}$ may form a ring selected from saturated 3 to 8 membered rings, the 5 to 8 membered rings of which may optionally contain one or two double bonds, and wherein one or two of the ring carbon atoms of such 5 to 8 membered rings may optionally and independently be replaced by an oxygen or sulfur atom or by NZ^2 wherein Z^2 is hydrogen, benzyl or C_1-C_4 alkyl;

R^3 is hydrogen, C_1-C_4 alkyl, -O(C_1-C_4 alkyl), chloro, fluoro, bromo, iodo, -S(C_1-C_4 alkyl) or -SO_2(C_1-C_4 alkyl);

each R^8, R^9 and R'^2 is selected, independently, from hydrogen and C_1-C_2 alkyl;

each R^4 and R^6 that is attached to a carbon atom is selected, independently, from hydrogen and C_1-C_6 alkyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, hydroxy, hydroxy (C_1-C_2 alkyl), trifluoromethyl, cyano, amino, nitro, -O(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), -CH_2SCH_3, -S(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -CO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -C(=O)H or -C(=O)O(C_1-C_4 alkyl), wherein each of the C_1-C_2 alkyl moieties in the foregoing R^4 and R^6 groups may optionally contain one double or triple bond; and R^6, when attached to a nitrogen atom, is selected from hydrogen and C_1-C_4 alkyl;

R^5 is substituted phenyl, naphthyl, pyridyl or pyrimidyl, wherein each of the foregoing R^5 groups is

substituted with from two to four substituents R^{13}, wherein up to three of said substituents may be selected, independently, from chloro, C_1-C_6 alkyl, -O(C_1-$C_{(3}$ alkyl) and -(C_1-C_6 alkylene)O(C_1-C_6alkyl), and wherein one of said substituents may be selected, independently, from bromo, iodo, formyl, cyano, trifluoromethyl, nitro, amino, -NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -N(C_1-C_2 alkyl)(C_1-C_6 alkyl), -C(=O)O(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -C(=O)(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -OOOH, -SO_2NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -SO_2N(C_1-C2 alkyl)(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -SO_2NH_2, -$NHSO_2$(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -(C_o-C_1alkylene)-S(C_1-C_2alkyl), -(C_o-C_1alkylene)-SO-(C_1-C_2alkyl), -(C_o-$C_l$alkylene)-SO_2-(C_1-C_2alkyl) and -(C_1-C_4alkylene)-OH, and wherein each of the C_1-C_4 alkyl and C_l-C_6 alkyl moieties in the foregoing R^5 groups may optionally be substituted with one or two substituents independently selected from fluoro, hydroxy, amino, methylamino, dimethylamino and acetyl;

R^7 is hydrogen, methyl, halo (e.g., chloro, fluoro, iodo or bromo), hydroxy, methoxy, -C(=O)(C_1-C2 alkyl), -C(=O)O(C_1-C2 alkyl), hydroxymethyl, trifluoromethyl or formyl;

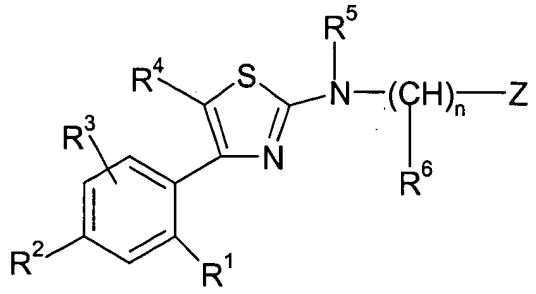
R^{10} is hydrogen, hydroxy, methoxy or fluoro; and

R^{11} is hydrogen or C_1-C_4 alkyl;

with the proviso that in the ring containing D, E, K and G of formula I, there can not be two double bonds adjacent to each other;

and the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of such compound.

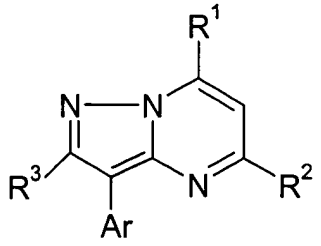
10. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 wherein said corticotropin releasing factor antagonist is a compound of formula



wherein each of R^1 and R^2 is independently a halogen atom; a C_1-C_{15} hydroxyalkyl radical; C_1-C_5 alkyl; C_1-C_{10} aralkyl; C_1-C_5 alkoxy; trifluoromethyl; nitro; nitrile; a group - SR where R is hydrogen, a C_1-C_5 alkyl radical or a C_7-C_{10} aralkyl radical; a group S-CO-R where R is a C_1-C_5 alkyl radical or aralkyl in which the aryl portion is C_6-C_8 and the alkyl portion is C_1-C_4; a group –COOR' where R' is hydrogen or C_1-C_5 alkyl; a group -CONR'R" where R' and R" are as defined above for R'; a group -NR'R" where R' and R" are as previously defined for R'; a group -CONRaRb or NRaRb, where Ra and Rb, taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, form a 5- to 7-membered heterocyclic ring; or a group -NHCO-NR'R", where R' and R" are as defined above for R'; R^3 is hydrogen or as defined for R' and R^2 is a hydrogen atom;C_{1-5} alkyl; halogen; a hydroxymethyl group; or a formyl group; R^5 is C_1-C_5 alkyl; a C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl group; a cycloalkylalkyl group in which the cycloalkyl portion is C_3-C_7 and the alkyl portion is C_1-C_5; or C_5-C_6 alkenyl; n is O or 1; R^6 is C_{1-5} alkyl; alkoxyalkyl in which the alkyl portions are C_1-C_5; C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl; a cycloalkylalkyl group in which the cycloalkyl portion is C_3-C_7 and the alkyl portion is C_1-C_5; a cycloalkyloxyalkyl radical in which the cycloalkyl is C_3-C_7 and the alkyl is C_1-C_4; a

hydroxyalkyloxyalkyl radical in which the alkyls are C_2-C_{10}; or an alkoxyalkyloxyalkyl radical in which the alkyls are C_3-C_{12}; and Z is an optionally substituted bi- or tricyclic aromatic or heteroaromatic group; and stereoisomers and/or addition salts thereof.

11. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 wherein said corticotropin releasing factor antagonist is a compound of formula



including the stereoisomers and the pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt forms thereof, wherein

R^1 is NR^4R^5 or OR^5;

R^2 is C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6alkyloxy or C_1-C_6alkylthio,

R^3 is hydrogen, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6alkylsulfonyl, C_1-C_6alkylsulfoxy or C_1-C_6alkylthio;

R^4 is hydrogen, C_1-C_6alkyl, mono- or di(C_3-C_6cyloalkylmethyl, C_3-C_6cyloalkyl, C_3-C_6alkenyl, hydroxyC_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6akylcarbonyloxyC_1-C_6alkyl or C_1-C_6alkyloxyC_1-C_6alkyl;

R^5 is C_1-C_8alkyl, mono- or di(C_3-C_6cycloalkyl)methyl, Ar^1CH_2, C_3-C_6alkenyl, C_1-C_6alkyloxyC_1-C_6alkyl, hydroxyC_1-C_6alkyl, thienylmethyl, furanylmethyl, C_1-C_6alkylthioC_1-C_6alkyl, morpholinyl, mono- or di(C_1-C_6alkyl)aminoC_1-$_6$alkyl, di(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino, C_1-C_6alkylcarbonylC_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6alkyl substituted with imidazolyl; or a radical of formula -Alk-O-CO-Ar^1;

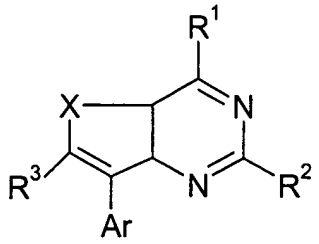
or R^4 and R^5 taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached may form a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl or morpholinyl group, optionally substituted with C_1-C_6alkyl or C_1-C_6alkyloxyC_1-C_6alkyl; and

Ar is phenyl; phenyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C_1-C_6alkyl, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, cyano, C_1-C_6alkyloxy, benzyloxy, C_1-C_6alkylthio, nitro, amino and mono- or di(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino; pyridinyl; pyridinyl substituted with I ~ 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C_1-C_6alkyl, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, cyano, C_1-C_6alkyloxy, benzyloxy, C_1-C_6alkylthio, nitro, amino, mono- or di(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino and piperidinyl; and wherein said substituted phenyl may optionally be further substituted with one or more halogens;

Ar^1 is phenyl; phenyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents each independently selected from halo, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6alkyloxy, di(C_1-C_6alkyl)aminoC_1-C_6alkyl, trifluoromethyl and C_1-C_6alkyl substituted with morpholinyl; or pyridinyl; and Alk is C_1-C_6alkanediyl;

with the proviso that 5-methyl-3-phenyl-7-(phenylmethoxy)-pyrazolo[1,5-a]-pyrimidine and 2,5-di methyl-7-(methylamino)-3-phenyl-pyrazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidine are not included.

12. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 wherein said corticotropin releasing factor antagonist is a compound of formula



including the stereoisomers and the pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt forms thereof, wherein

X is S, SO or SO_2;

R^1 is NR^4R^5 or OR^5;

R^2 is C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6alkyloxy or C_1-C_6alkylthio;

R^3 is hydrogen, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6alkylsulfonyl, C_1-C_6alkylsulfoxy or C_1-C_6alkylthio;

R^4 is hydrogen, C_1-$_6$alkyl, mono- or di(C_3-C_6cycloalkyl)methyl, C_3-C_6cycloalkyl, C_3-C_6alkenyl, hydroxyC_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6alkylcarbonyloxyC_1-C_6alkyl or C_1-C_6alkyloxyC_1-C_6alkyl;

R^5 is C_1-C_8alkyl, mono- or di(C_3-C_6cycloalkyl)methyl, Ar^1CH_2, C_3-C_6alkenyl, C_1-C_6alkyloxyC_1-C_6alkyl, hydroxyC_1-C_6alkyl, thienylmethyl, furanylmethyl, C_1-C_6alkylthioC_1-C_6alkyl, morpholinyl, mono- or di(C_1-C_6alkyl)aminoC_1-C_6alkyl, di(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino, C_1-C_6alkylcarbonylC_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6alkyl substituted with imidazolyl; or a radical of formula -Alk-O-CO-Ar I;

or R^4 and R^5 taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached may form a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl or morpholinyl group, optionally substituted with C_1-C_6alkyl or C_1-C_6alkyloxyC_1-C_6alkyl;

Ar is phenyl; phenyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C_1-C_6alkyl, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, cyano, C_1-C_6alkyloxy, benzyloxy, C_1-C_6alkylthio, nitro, amino and mono- or di(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino; pyridinyl; pyridinyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C_1-C_6alkyl, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, cyano, C_1-C_6alkyloxy, benzyloxy, C_1-C_6alkylthio, nitro, amino, mono- or di(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino and piperidinyl; and wherein said substituted phenyl may optionally be further substituted with one or more halogens;

Ar^1 is phenyl; phenyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents each independently selected from halo, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6alkyloxy, di(C_1-C_6alkyl)aminoC_1-C_6alkyl trifluoromethyl, and C_1-C_6alkyl substituted with morpholinyl; or pyridinyl; and Alk is C_1-C_6alkanediyl.

13. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim ~~1~~ 4 wherein said corticotropin releasing factor antagonist is a compound selected from the group consisting of:

4-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-3,6-dimethyl-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenoxy)-pyridine;

~~butyl-[2,5-dimethyl-7-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-6,7-dihydro-5H-pyrrolo[2,3d]pyrimidin-4-yl]-ethyl-amine;~~

~~4-(butyl-ethylamino)-2,5-dimethyl-7-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-5,7-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-d]pyrimidin-6-one;~~

4-(1-ethylpropoxy)-2,5-dimethyl-6-(2,4,6-trimethylphenoxy)-pyrimidine;

N-butyl-N-ethyl-2,5-dimethyl-NN-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-pyrimidine-4,6diamine;

[4-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-3,6-dimethyl-pyridin-2-yl]-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-amine;

~~6-(ethyl- propyl-amino)-2,7-dimethyl-9-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-7,9-dihydropurin-8-one;~~

~~3-{(4-methyl-benzyl)-[3,6-dimethyl-1-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-1 H-pyrazolo[3,4d]pyrimidin-4-yl]-amino}-propan-1-ol;~~

~~diethyl-[6-methyl-3-methylsulfanyl-1-(2,4,6-trichlorophenyl)-1 H-pyrazolo[3,4d]pyrimidin-4-yl]-amine;~~

~~2-{butyl-[6-methyl-3-methylsulfanyl-1-(2,4,6-trichlorophenyl)-1 H-pyrazolo[3,4d]pyrimidin-4-yl]-amino}-ethanol;~~

~~dibutyl-[6-methyl-3-methylsulfanyl-1-(2,4,6-trichlorophenyl)-1 H-pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidin-4-yl}-amine;~~

~~butyl-ethyl-[6-methyl-3-methylsulfanyl-1-(2,4,6-trichlorophenyl)-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidin-4-yl]-amine;~~

~~butyl-ethyl-[6-methyl-3-methylsulfanyl-1-(2,4,6-trichlorophenyl)-1 H-pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidin-4-yl]-amine;~~

~~butyl-cyclopropylmethyl-[6-methyl-3-methylsulfanyl-1-(2,4,6-trichlorophenyl)1 H-pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidin-4-yl]-amine;~~

~~di-1-propyl-[6-methyl-3-methylsulfanyl-1-(2,4,6-trichlorophenyl)-1 H-pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidin-4-yl]-amine;~~

~~diallyl-[6-methyl-3-methylsulfanyl-1-(2,4,6-trichlorophenyl)-1 H-pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidin-4-yl]-amine;~~

~~butyl-ethyl-[6-chloro-3-methylsulfanyl-1-(2,4,6-trichlorophenyl)-1 H-pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidin-4-yl]-amine;~~

~~butyl-ethyl-[6-methoxy-3-methylsulfanyl-1-(2,4,6-trichlorophenyl)-1 H-pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidin-4-yl]-amine;~~

~~propyl-ethyl-[3,6-dimethyl-1-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-1 H-pyrazolo[3,4- d]pyrimidin-4-yl]-amine;~~

~~4-(1-ethyl-propyl)-6-methyl-3-methylsulfanyl-1-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-1 H-pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidine;~~

~~n-butyl-ethyl-[2,5-dimethyl-7-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-7H-pyrrolo[2,3-d]pyrimidin-4-yl]amine;~~

~~di-n-propyl-[2,5-dimethyl-7-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-7H-pyrrolo[2,3-d]pyrimidin-4-yl]amine;~~

~~ethyl-n-propyl-[2,5-dimethyl-7-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-7H-pyrrolo[2,3-d]pyrimidin-4-yl]amine;~~

~~diethyl-2,5-dimethyl-7-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-7H-pyrrolo[2,3-d]pyrimidin-43O-yl]amine;~~

~~n-butyl-ethyl-[2,5,6-trimethyl-7-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-7H-pyrrolo[2,3-d]pyrimidin-4-yl]a mine;~~

~~2-{N-n-butyl-N-[2,5-dimethyl-7-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-7H-pyrrolo[2,3-d]pyrimidin-4-yl]amino}-ethanol;~~

~~4-(1-ethyl-propyl)-2,5,6-trimethyl-7-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-7H-pyrrolo[2,3-d]pyrimidine;~~

~~n-butyl-ethyl-[2,5-dimethyl-7-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)-7H-pyrrolo[2,3-d]pyrimidin-4-yl]amine;~~

~~2,5-dimethyl-7-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-7H-pyrrolo[2,3-d]pyrimidyl-4-yl]-(1-ethyl-propyl)amine;~~

~~butyl-[3,6-dimethyl-1-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-1 H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridin-4-yl]-ethylamine;~~

~~[3,6-dimethyl-1-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-1 H-pyrazolo[3,4,b]pyridin-4-yl]-(1-methoxymethylpropyl)-amine;~~

~~4-(1-methoxymethylpropoxy)-3,6-dimethyl-1-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-1 H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine;~~

~~(1-ethyl propyl)-[3,5,6-trimethyl- 1-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-1 H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridin-4-yl]-amine;~~

~~4-(1-ethylpropoxy)-2,5-dimethyl-7-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-7H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine;~~

~~4-(1-ethylpropoxy)-2,5,6-trimethyl-7-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-7H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine;~~

~~4-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-2,5-dimethyl-7-(2,6-dimethyl-4-bromop-he nyl)-7H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine;~~

~~2,5,6-trimethyl-7-(1-propylbutyl)-4-(2,4,6-trimethylphenoxy)-7H-pyrrolo[2,3-d]pyrimidine;~~

~~1-(1-ethyl propyl)-6-methyl-4-(2,4,6-trimethyl phenylamino)-1,3-dihydro-imidazo[4,5-c]pyridin-2-one;~~

~~9-(1-ethylpropyl)-2-methyl-6-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylamino)-7,9-dihydro-purin-8-one;~~

~~1-(1-ethylpropyl)-6-methyl-4-(2,4,6-trimethylphenoxy)-1,3-dihydro-imidazo[4,5-c]pyridin-2-one;~~

~~1-(1-ethyl propyl)-6-methyl-4-(2,4,6-trimethyl phenoxy)-1 H-imidazo[4,5-c]pyridine;~~

~~1-(1-ethylpropyl)-3,6-dimethyl-4-(2,4,6-trimethylphenoxy)-1,3-dihydro-imidazo[4,5-c]pyridin-2-one;~~

~~1-(1-ethylpropyl)-3,6-dimethyl-4-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylamino)-1,3-dihydro-imidazo[4,5-c]pyridin-2-one;~~

~~1-(1-ethyl-propyl)-4,7-dimethyl-5-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenoxy)-1,4-dihydro-2H-pyrido[3,4-b]pyrazin-3-one;~~

~~1-(1-ethyl-propyl)-4,7-dimethyl-5-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenoxy)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrido[3,4-b]pyrazine;~~

~~1-(1-ethyl-propyl)-7-methyl-5-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenoxy)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrido[3,4-b]pyrazine;~~

~~1-(1-ethyl-propyl)-7-methyl-2-oxo-5-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenoxy)-1,2,3,4-tetra-hydro-[1,6]naphthyridine-3-carboxylic acid methyl ester;~~

~~1-(1-ethyl-propyl)-7-methyl-2-oxo-5-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenoxy)-1,2,3,4-tetra-hydro-[1,6]naphthyridine-3-carboxylic acid-isopropyl ester;~~

~~1-(1-ethyl-propyl)-7-methyl-5-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenoxy)-3,4-dihydro-1 H-[1,6]naphthyridin-2-one;~~

~~1-(1-ethyl-propyl)-7-methyl-5-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenoxy)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro[1,6]naphthyridine;~~

~~15 1-(1-ethyl-propyl)-7-methyl-5-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenoxy)-1,4-dihydro-2H-3oxa-1,6-diaza-naphthalene;~~

~~1-(1-ethyl-propyl)-4,7-dimethyl-5-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenoxy)-1,4-dihydro-2H3-oxa-1,6-diaza-naphthalene;~~

~~1-(1-ethyl-propyl)-3,7-dimethyl-5-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenoxy)-3,4-dihydro1 H-3-oxa-[1,6]-naphthyridin-2-one;~~

~~1-(1-ethyl-propyl)-3,3,6-trimethyl-4-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenoxy)-2,3-dihydro1 H-pyrrolo[3,2-c]pyridine;~~

~~7-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-5-methyl-3-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-pyrazolo[1,5a]pyrimidine;~~

~~[2,5-dimethyl-3-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-pyrazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidin-7-yl]-(1-ethylpropyl)-amine;~~

~~(1-ethyl-propyl)-[5-methyl-3-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-pyrazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidin7-yl]-amine;~~

~~7-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-2,5-dimethyl-3-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-pyrazolo[1,5- a]pyrimidine;~~

~~[2,5-dimethyl-3-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-pyrazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidin-7-yl]-ethylpropyl-amine;~~

~~[6-bromo-5-bromomethyl-3-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-3H-[1,2,3]triazolo[4,5b]pyridin-7-yl]-(1-ethyl-propyl)-amine;~~

~~(1-ethyl-propyl)-[5-methyl-3-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-3H-[1,2,3]triazolo[4,5b]pyridin-7-yl]-amine;~~

~~[6-bromo-5-methyl-3-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-3H-[1,2,3]triazolo[4,5-b]pyridin7-yl]-(1-ethyl-propyl)-methyl-amine;~~

~~7-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-5-methyl-3-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-3H-[1,2,3]triazolo[4,5b]pyridine;~~

~~4-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-2,5-dimethyl-7-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-5H-pyrrolo[3,2d]pyrimidine;~~

(+)-2,5-dimethyl-4-(tetrahydro-furan-3-yloxy)-7-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-5H-pyrrolo-[3,2-d]pyrimidine;

2,5-dimethyl-4-(S)-(tetrahydro-furan-3-yloxy)-7-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-5Hpyrrolo-[3,2-d]pyrimidine;

2,5-dimethyl-4-(1-propyl-butoxy)-7-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-5H-pyrrolo[3,2d]pyrimidine;

4-sec-butylsulfanyl-2,5-dimethyl-7-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-5H-pyrrolo[3,2d]pyrimidine;

4-(butyl-ethyl-amino)-2,6-dimethyl-8-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-5,8-dihydro-6Hpyrido[2,3-d]pyrimidin-7-one;

8-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-6-methyl-4-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-3,4-dihydro-1 H-pyrido[2,3-b] pyrazin-2-one;

8-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-6-methyl-4-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrido [2,3-b]pyrazine;

4-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-2-methyl-8-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-quinoline; 5-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-7-methyl-1-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-1,4-dihydro-2H-3-oxa-1,8-diaza-naphthalene;

5-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-7-methyl-1-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-1,2-dihydro-3-oxa-1,8diaza-naphthalen-4-one;

8-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-1,6-dimethyl-4-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-1,2,3,4tetrahydro-pyrido[2,3-b]pyrazine;

(1-ethyl-propyl)-[2-methyl-8-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-quinol in-4-yl]-amine;

4-(butyl-ethyl-amino)-2,6-dimethyl-8-(2,6-dimethyl-4-bromo-phenyl)-5,8dihydro-6H-pyrido[2,3-d]pyrimidin-7-one;

4-(butyl-ethyl-amino)-2-methyl-8-(2,6-dimethyl-4-bromo-phenyl)-5,8-dihydro-6 H- pyrido[2,3-d]pyrimidin-7-one;

4-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-2-methyl-8-(2,6-dimethyl-4-bromo-phenyl)-5,8-dihydro-6Hpyrido[2,3-d]pyrimidin-7-one;

(butyl-ethyl)-[2-methyl-8-(2,6-dimethyl-4-bromo-phenyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydropyrido[2,3-d]pyrimidin-4-yl]-amine;

(propyl-ethyl)-[2-methyl-8-(2,6-dimethyl-4-bromo-phenyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydropyrido[2,3-d]pyrimidin-4-yl]-amine;

(diethyl)-[2-methyl-8-(2,6-dimethyl-4-bromo-phenyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydropyrido [2,3-d]pyrimidin-4-yl]-amine;

(1-ethyl-propyl)-[2-methyl-8-(2,6-dimethyl-4-bromo-phenyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro- pyrido[2,3-d]pyrimidin-4-yl]-amine;

(1-ethyl-propoxy)-2-methyl-8-(2,6-dimethyl-4-bromo-phenyl)-5,6,7,8tetrahydro- pyrido[2,3-d]pyrimidine;

4-(butyl-ethyl-amino)-2-methyl-8-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-5,8-dihydro-6Hpyrido[2,3-d]pyrimidin-7-one;

4-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-2-methyl-8-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-5,8-dihydro-6Hpyrido [2,3-d]pyrimidin-7-one;

(butyl-ethyl)-[2-methyl-8-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-pyrido[2,3d] pyrimidin-4-yl]-amine;

(propyl-ethyl)-[2-methyl-8-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-pyrido-[2,3-d]-pyrimidin-4-yl]-

~~amine;~~

~~(diethyl)-[2-methyl-8-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-pyrido[2,3-d]-pyrimidin-4-yl]-amine;~~

~~(1-ethyl-propyl)-[2-methyl-8-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydropyrido[2,3-d]-pyrimidin-4-yl]-amine;~~

~~(1-ethyl-propoxy)-2-methyl-8-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydropyrido[2,3-d]-pyrimidine;~~

~~8-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-6-methyl-4-(2,6-dimethyl-4-bromo-phenyl)-3,4-dihydro1-H-pyrido-[2,3-b]pyrazin-2-one;~~

~~8-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-6-methyl-4-(2,6-dimethyl-4-bromo-phenyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrido[2,3-b]pyrazine;~~

~~4-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-2-methyl-8-(2,6-dimethyl-4-bromo-phenyl)-q uinoline;~~

~~5-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-7-methyl-1-(2,6-dimethyl-4-bromo-phenyl)-1,4-dihydro-2H3-oxa-1,8-diaza-naphthalene;~~

~~5-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-7-methyl-1-(2,6-dimethyl-4-bromo-phenyl)-1,2-dihydro-3oxa-1,8-diaza-naphthalen-4-one;~~

~~8-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-1,6-dimethyl-4-(2,6-dimethyl-4-bromo-phenyl)-1,2,3,4tetrahydro-pyrido[2,3-b]pyrazine;~~

~~5-(1-ethyl-propyl)-[2-methyl-8-(2,6-dimethyl-4-bromo-phenyl)-quinolin-4-yl]amine;~~

~~4-(butyl-ethyl-amino)-2,6-dimethyl-8-(2,6-dimethyl-4-chloro-phenyl)-5,8dihydro-6H-pyrido[2,3-d]pyrimidin-7-one;~~

~~8-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-6-methyl-4-(2,6-dimethyl-4-chloro-phenyl)-3,4-dihydro-1-H-pyrido[2,3-b]pyrazin-2-one;~~

~~8-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-6-methyl-4-(2,6-dimethyl-4-chloro-phenyl)-1,2,3,4tetrahydro-pyrido[2,3-b]pyrazine;~~

~~4-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-2-methyl-8-(2,6-dimethyl-4-chloro-phenyl)-quinoline;~~

~~5-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-7-methyl-1-(2,6-dimethyl-4-chloro-phenyl)-1,4-dihydro-2H-3-oxa-1,8-diaza-naphthalene;~~

~~5-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-7-methyl-1-(2,6-dimethyl-4-chloro-phenyl)-1,2-dihydro-3oxa-1,8-diaza-naphthalen-4-one;~~

~~8-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-1,6-dimethyl-4-(2,6-dimethyl-4-chloro-phenyl)-1,2,3,4tetrahydro-pyrido[2,3-b]pyrazine;~~

~~(1-ethyl-propyl)-[2-methyl-8-(2,6-dimethyl-4-chloro-phenyl)-quinolin-4-yl]amine;~~

~~8-(1-hydroxymethyl-propoxy)-6-methyl-4-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-3,4-dihydro1-H-pyrido[2,3-b]pyrazin-2-one;~~

~~8-(1-hydroxymethyl-propylamino)-6-methyl-4-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-3,4-dihydro-1-H-pyrido[2,3-b]pyrazin-2-one;~~

~~8-(1-ethyl-propylamino)-6-methyl-4-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-3,4-dihydro-1-Hpyrido[2,3-b]pyrazin-2-one;~~

~~8-diethylamino-6-methyl-4-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-3,4-dihydro-1-H-pyrido[2,3-b]-pyrazin-2-one;~~

~~8-(ethyl-propyl-amino)-6-methyl-4-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-3,4-dihydro-1-Hpyrido[2,3-b]pyrazin-2-one;~~

~~8-(butyl-ethyl-amino)-6-methyl-4-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-3,4-dihydro-1 Hpyrido [2,3-b]pyrazin-2-one;~~

~~8-(1-hydroxymethyl-propoxy)-6-methyl-4-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-1,2,3,4tetrahydro-pyrido[2,3-b]pyrazine;~~

~~8-(1-hydroxymethyl-propylamino)-6-methyl-4-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-1,2,3,4tetrahydro-pyrido[2,3-b]pyrazine;~~

~~5 8-(1-ethyl-propylamino)-6-methyl-4-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-1,2,3,4tetrahydro-pyrido[2,3-b]pyrazine;~~

~~8-diethylamino-6-methyl-4-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrido[2,3-b]pyrazine;~~

~~8-(ethyl-propyl-amino)-6-methyl-4-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrido[2,3-b]pyrazine;~~

~~8-(butyl-ethyl-amino)-6-methyl-4-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrido[2,3-b]pyrazine;~~

~~4-(1-hydroxymethyl-propoxy)-2-methyl-8-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-quinoline;~~

~~4-(1-hydroxymethyl-propylamino)-2-methyl-8-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-quinoline;~~

~~4-(1-ethyl-propylamino)-2-methyl-8-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-quinoline;~~

~~4-diethylamino-2-methyl-8-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-quinoline;~~

~~4-(ethyl-propyl-amino)-2-methyl-8-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-quinoline;~~

~~4-(butyl-ethyl-amino)-2-methyl-8-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-quinoline;~~

~~5-(1-hydroxymethyl-propoxy)-7-methyl-1-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-1,4-dihydro2H-3-oxa-1,8-diaza-naphthalene;~~

~~5-(1-hydroxymethyl-propylamino)-7-methyl-1-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-1,4dihydro-2H-3-oxa-1,8-diaza-naphthalene;~~

~~5-(1-ethyl-propylamino)-7-methyl-1-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-1,4-dihydro-2H-3-oxa-1,8-diaza-naphthalene;~~

~~5-diethylamino-5-methyl-1-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-1,4-dihydro-2H-3-oxa-1,8diaza-naphthalene;~~

~~5-(ethyl-propyl-amino)-7-methyl-1-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-1,4-dihydro-2H-3oxa-1,8-diaza-naphthalene;~~

~~8-(butyl-ethyl-amino)-6-methyl-4-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-1,4-dihydro-2H-3oxa-1,8-diaza-naphthalene;~~

~~4-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-5-methyl-2-[N-(1-(methoxymethyl)-1-(naphth-2-yl) methyl)-N-propylamino]thiazole;~~

~~oxalate of 4-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-5-methyl-2-[N-(6-methoxyisoquinol-5-yl)-Npropylamino]thiazole;~~

~~oxalate of 4-(2-chloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-5-methyl-2-[N-(6-methylisoquinol-5-yl)-N-propylamino]thiazole;~~

~~4-(2-chloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-5-methyl-2-[N-(1-methoxycarbonylmethylindol5-yl)-N-propylamino]thiazole;~~

~~oxalate of 4-(2-chloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-5-methyl-2-[N-(6-methoxyisoquinol5-yl)-N-propylamino]thiazole;~~

~~oxalate of 4-(2-chloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-5-methyl-2-[N-(6-chloroisoquinol-5-yl)-N-~~

~~propylamino]thiazole;~~

~~oxalate of 4-(2-chloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-5-methyl-2-[N-(6-methoxyisoquinol-5-yl)-N-propylamino]thiazole;~~

~~4-(2-chloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-5-methyl-2-[N1-methoxynaphth-2-yl)-N-propylamino]thiazole;~~

~~oxalate of 4-(2-chloro-4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-5-methyl-2-[N-6methoxyisoquinol-5-yl)-N-propylamino]thiazole;~~

~~chlorhydrate of 4-(2-chloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-5-methyl-2-[N-(2ethoxynaphth-1-yl)-N-propylamino]thiazole;~~

~~chlorhydrate of 4-(2-chloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-5-methyl-2[N-(2,3-dimethylnaphth-1-yl)-N-propylamino]thiazole;~~

~~chlorhydrate of 4-(2-chloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-5-methyl-2-[N-(6-bromo-2methoxynaphth-1-yl)-N-propylamino]thiazole;~~

~~chlorhydrate of 4-(2-chloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-5-methyl-2-[N-(2,6dimethylnaphth-1-yl)-N-propylamino]thiazole;~~

~~chlorhydrate of 4-(2-chloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-5-methyl-2-[N-(1(methoxymethyl)-1-(naphth-2-yl)methyl)-N-propylamino]thiazole;~~

~~chlorhydrate of 4-(2-chloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-5-methyl-2-[N-(1-(cyclopropyl)1-(naphth-2-yl)methyl)-N-propylamino]thiazole;~~

~~3-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-5-methyl-7(N-propyl-N-cyclopropanemethylamino)3O-pyrazolo[2,3-a]pyrimidine;~~

~~3-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-5-methyl-7-(N-allyl-N-cyclopropanemethylamino)pyrazolo[2,3-a]pyrimidine;~~

~~2-methylthio-3-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-5-methyl-7-(N,N-diallylamino)pyrazolo[2,3-a]pyrimidine;~~

~~2-methylthio-3-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-5-methyl-7-(N-butyl-N-cyclopropanemethyl-amino)pyrazolo[2,3-a]pyrimidine;~~

~~2-methylthio-3-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-5-methyl-7-(N-propyl-N-cyclopropanemethyl-amino)pyrazolo[2,3-a]pyrimidine;~~

~~2-methyl-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-methyl-7-(N,N-dipropylamino)-pyrazolo[2,3-a]-pyrimidine;~~

~~3-[6-(dimethylamino)-3-pyridinyl-2,5-dimethyl-N,N-dipropylpyrazolo[2,3-a]-pyrimidin-7-amine;~~

~~3-[6-(dimethylamino)-4-methyl-3-pyridinyl]-2,5-dimethyl-N,N-dipropyl- pyrazolo[2,3-a]pyrimidine-7-amine;~~

~~3-(2,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-2,5-dimethyl-7-(N-propyl-N-methyloxyethylamino)pyrazolo(2,3-a)pyrimidine;~~

~~7-(N-diethylamino)-2,5-dimethyl-3-(2-methyl-4-methoxyphenyl-[1,5-a]pyrazolopyrimidine;~~

~~7-(N-(3-cyanopropyl)-N-propylamino-2,5,dimethyl-3-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)-[1,5a]-pyrazolopyrimidine;~~

[3,6-dimethyl-2-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenoxy)-pyridin-4-yl]-(1-ethyl-propyl)-amine;

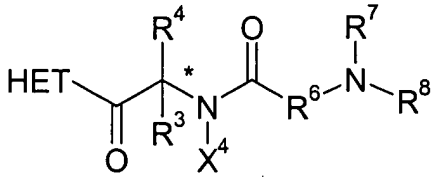
[2-(4-chloro-2,6-dimethyl-phenoxy)-3,6-dimethyl-pyridin-4-yl]-(1-ethyl-propyl)-amine;

~~cyclopropylmethyl-[3-(2,4-dimethyl-phenyl)-2,5-dimethyl-pyrazolo[1,5a]pyrimidin-7-yl]-propyl-amine;~~

~~cyclopropylmethyl-[3-(2-methyl-4-chloro-phenyl)-2,5-dimethyl-pyrazolo[1,5a]pyrimidin-7-yl]-propyl-amine;~~

~~cyclopropylmethyl-[3-(2,4-di-chloro-phenyl)-2,5-dimethyl-pyrazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidin-7-yl]-propyl-amine;~~
~~[3-(2-methyl-4-chloro-phenyl)-2,5-dimethyl-pyrazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidin-7-yl]di-propyl-amine;~~
~~[2,5-dimethyl-3-(2,4-dimethyl-phenyl)-pyrazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidin-7-yl]-(1-ethylpropyl)-amine;~~
~~[2,5-dimethyl-3-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-pyrazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidin-7-yl]-(1-ethylpropyl)-amine;~~
4-(1-ethyl-propylamino)-6-methyl-2-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenoxy)-nicotinic acid methyl ester;
~~3-[6-(dimethylamino)-4-methyl-3-pyridinyl]-2,5-dimethyl-N-propyl-Ncyclopropylmethyl-pyrazolo[2,3-a]pyrimidin-7-amine; and~~
~~3-[6-(dimethylamino)-4-methyl-3-pyridinyl]-2,5-dimethyl-N-ethyl-Ncyclopropylmethyl-pyrazolo[2,3-a]pyrimidin-7-amine~~,

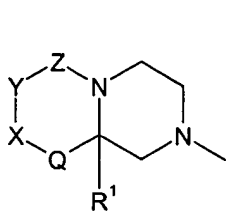
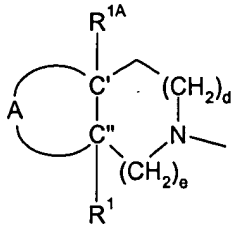
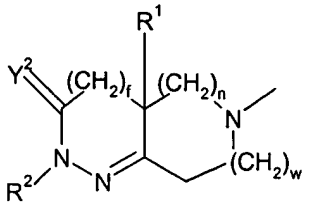
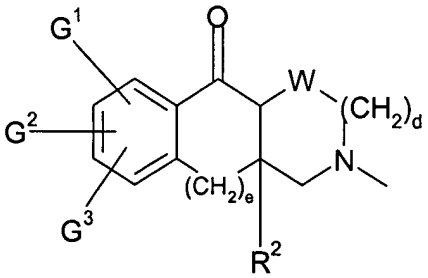
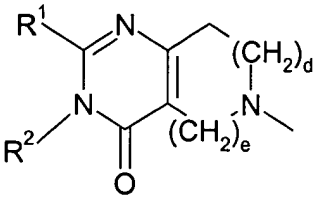
wherein said growth hormone secretagogue is a compound of formula IV:



IV

or a stereoisomeric mixture thereof, a diastereomerically enriched, diastereomerically pure, enantiomerically enriched, or enantiomerically pure isomer thereof, or a prodrug of such compound, mixture, or isomer thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound, mixture, isomer, or prodrug, wherein:

HET is a heterocyclic moiety selected from the group consisting of





and


d is O, 1, or 2;

e is 1 or 2;

f is O or 1;

n and w are O, 1, or 2, provided that n and w cannot both be O at the same time;

Y^2 is oxygen or sulfur;

A is a divalent radical, wherein the left hand side of the radical as shown below is connected to C" and the right hand side of the radical as shown below is connected to C', selected from the group consisting of $-NR^2-CO-NR^2-$, $-NR^2-SO_2-NR^2-$, $-O-CO-NR^2-$, $-NR^2-CO_2-$, $-CO-NR^2-CO-$, $-CO-NR^2-C(R^9R^{10})-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-NR^2-CO-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-$, $-SO_2-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-O-CO-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-O-C(R^9R^{10})-$, $-NR^2-CO-C(R^9R^{10})-$, $-O-CO-C(R^9R^{10})-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-CO-NR^2-$, $-CO-NR^2-CO-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-CO_2-$, $-CO-NR^2-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-$ $-CO_2-C(R^9R^{10})-$ $-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-$, $-SO_2-NR^2-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^1R^{10})-$, $-C(R^1R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-NR^2-CO-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-O-CO-$, $-NR^2-CO-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^1R^{10})-$ $-NR^2-SO_2-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^1R^{10})-$ $-O-CO-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-CO-NR^2-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-CO-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-NR^2-CO_2-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-O-CO-NR^2$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-NR^2-CO-NR^2-$, $-NR^2-CO_2-C(R^9R^{10})-$, $-NR^2-CO-NR^2-C(R^9R^{10})-$ $-NR^2-SO_2-NR^2-C(R^9R^{10})-$ $-O-CO-NR^2-C(R^9R^{10})-$, $-CO-N=C(R^{11})-NR^2-$, $-CO-NR^2-CR^{11}=N-$, $CR^9R^{10}-NR^{12}CR^9R^{10}-C(R^9R^{10})-$ $-CO_2-C(R^9R^{10})-$

$C(R^9R^{10})$-, $-NR^2-C(R^{11})=N-CO-$ $-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-N(R^{12})-C(R^9R^{10})-NR^{12}-$, $-N=C(R^1)-NR^2-CO-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-NR^2-SO_2-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-SO_2-NR^2-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-CO_2-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-SO_2-C(R^9R^{10})-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-SO_2-$ $-O-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-$ $-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-O-$ $-C(R^9R^{10})-CO-C(R^9R^{10})-$, $-CO-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-$, and $-C(R^9R^{10})-NR^2-SO_2-NR^2-$;

Q is a covalent bond or CH_2; W is CH or N;

X is CR^9R^{10}, $C=CH_2$, or C=O; Y is CR^9R^{10}, O, or NR^2;

Z is C=O, C=S, or SO_2;

G^1 is hydrogen, halo, hydroxy, nitro, amino, cyano, phenyl, carboxyl, $-CONH_2$, $-C_1$-C_4 alkyl optionally independently substituted with one or more phenyl, one or more halogen, or one or more hydroxy groups, $-C_1$-C_4 alkoxy optionally independently substituted with one or more phenyl, one or more halogen, or one or more hydroxy groups, $-C_1$-C_4 alkylthio, phenoxy, $-CO_2-(C_1$-C_4 alkyl), N,N-di-(C_1-C_4 alkylamino), $-C_2$-C_6 alkenyl optionally independently substituted with one or more phenyl, one or more halogen, or one or more hydroxy groups, $-C_2$-C_6 alkynyl optionally independently substituted with one or more phenyl, one or more halogen, or one or more hydroxy groups, $-C_3$-C_6 cycloalkyl optionally independently substituted with one or more C_1-C_4 alkyl groups, one or more halogen, or one or more hydroxy groups, $-C_1$-C_4 alkylamino carbonyl, or di-C_1-C_4 alkylamino) carbonyl;

G^2 and G^3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, hydroxy, $-C_1$-C_4 alkyl optionally independently substituted with one to three halo groups, and $-C_1$-C_4 alkoxy optionally independently substituted with one to three halo groups;

R^1 is hydrogen, -CN, $-(CH_2)_gNX^6COX^6$, $-(CH_2)_gNX^6CO(CH_2)_t-A^1$ $-(CH_2)_gNX^6SO_2(CH_2)_t-A^1$, $-(CH_2)_gNX^6SO_2X^6$, $-(CH_2)_gNX^6CONX^6(CH_2)_tA^1$, $-(CH_2)_gNX^6CONX^6X^6$, $-(CH_2)_gCONX^lX^6$, $-(CH_2)_gCONX^6(CH_2)_t-A^1$, $-(CH_2)_gCO_2X^6$, $-(CH_2)_gCO_2(CH_2)_t-A^1$, $-(CH_2)_gOX^6$, $-(CH_2)gOCOX^6$, $-(CH_2)_gOOO(CH_2)_t-A^1$, $-(CH_2)_gOOONX^s$(CHA-A^1, $-(CH_2)_gOOONX^6X^6$, $-(CH_2)_gCOX^6$, $-(CH_2),CO(CH_2)_t-A^1$, $-(CH_2)_gNX^6CO2X^6$, $-(CH_2)_gNX^6SO_2NX^6X^6$, $-(CH_2)gSO_mX^6-(CH_2),SO_m(CH_2)_tA^1$, $-C_1$- C_{10} alkyl, $-(CH_2)_t-A^1$, $-(CH_2)_g-(C_3$-C_1 cycloalkyl), $-(CH_2)_g-Y^1-(C_1$-C_6 alkyl), $-(CH_2)_gY^1-(CH_2)_t-A^1$, or $-(CH_2)_g-Y^1-(CH_2)_t-(C_3$-$C_1$ cycloalkyl);

wherein the alkyl and cycloalkyl groups in the definition of R' are optionally substituted with C_1-C_4 alkyl, hydroxy, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, carboxyl, - $CONH_2$, $-SO_m$ (C_1-C_6 alkyl), $-CO_2-(C_1$-C_4 alkyl) ester, 1 H-tetrazol-5-yl, or 1, 2, or 3 fluoro groups;

Y' is O, SO_m, $-CONX^6$-, -CH=CH-, -C=C-, $-NX^6CO$-, $-CONX^6$-, $-CO_2$-, $-OCONX^6$- or -OCO-;

g is O, 1, 2, 3, or 4; t is O, 1, 2, or 3;

said (CH2)g group and (CHA group in the definition of R' are optionally independently substituted with hydroxy, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, carboxyl, $-CONH_2$, - $SO_m(C_1$-C_6 alkyl), $-CO_2-(C_1$-C_4 alkyl) ester, 1 H-tetrazol-5-yl, 1, 2, or 3 fluoro groups, or 1 or 2 C_1-C_4 alkyl groups;

R^{1A} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, F, Cl, Br, I, C_1-C_6 alkyl, phenyl-(C_1-C_3 alkyl), pyridyl-(C_1-C_3 alkyl), thiazolyl-(C_1-C_3 alkyl), and thienyl-(C_1-C_3 alkyl), provided that R^{1A} is not F, Cl, Br, or I when a heteroatom is vicinal to C";

R^2 is hydrogen, C_1-C_8 alkyl, $-(C_o$-C_3 alkyl)-(C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl), $-(C_1$-C_4 alkyl)-A', or A', wherein the alkyl

groups and the cycloalkyl groups in the definition of R^2 are optionally substituted with hydroxy, -CO2 X^6, $-CONX^6X^6$, $-NX^6X^6$, $-SO_m(C_1-C_6$ alkyl), - COA', $-COX^6$, CF_3, CN, or 1, 2, or 3 independently selected halo groups;

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of A', C_1-C_{10} alkyl, $-(C_1-C_6$ alkyl)-A', $-(C_1-C_6$ alkyl)-$(C_3-C_7$ cycloalkyl), $-(C_1-C_5$ alkyl)-X'-$(C_1-C_5$ alkyl), $-(C_1-C_5$ alkyl)-X'-$(C_0-C_5$ alkyl)-A', and $-(C_1-C_5$ alkyl)-X'-$(C_1-C_5$ alkyl)-$(C_3-C_1$ cycloalkyl);

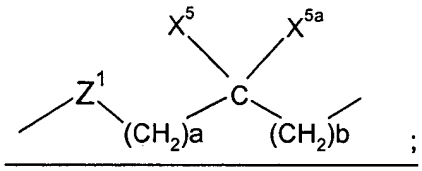
wherein the alkyl groups in the definition of R^3 are optionally substituted with $-SO_m(C_1-C_6$ alkyl), $-CO_2$ X3, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 independently selected halo groups, or 1, 2, or 3 independently selected $-OX^3$ groups;

X' is O, SO, $-NX^2CO-$, $-CONX^2-$, -OCO-, $-CO_2-$, $-CX^2=CX^2-$, $-NX^2CO_2-$, $-OCONX^2-$, or $-C\equiv C-$;

R^4 is hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, or C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl, or R^4 taken together with R^3 and the carbon atom to which they are attached form C_5-C_1 cycloalkyl, C_5-C_1 cycloalkenyl, a partially saturated or fully saturated 4- to 8-membered ring having 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur, and nitrogen, or a bicyclic ring system consisting of a partially saturated or fully saturated 5- or 6-membered ring, fused to a partially saturated, fully unsaturated, or fully saturated 5- or 6-membered ring, optionally having 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, sulfur, and oxygen;

X^4 is hydrogen or C_1-C_6 alkyl, or X^4 is taken together with R^4 and the nitrogen atom to which X^4 is attached and the carbon atom to which R^4 is attached and form a five to seven membered ring;

R^6 is a bond or is



;

wherein a and b are each independently O, 1, 2, or 3;

X^5 and X5a are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, CF_3, A^1, and C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted with A', OX^2, - $SO_mC_1-C_6$ alkyl), $-CO_2X^2$, C_3-C_1 cycloalkyl, $-NX^2X^2$, or $-CONX^2X^2$;

or the carbon bearing X^5 or X^{5a} forms one or two alkylene bridges with the nitrogen atom bearing R^7 and R^8 wherein each alkylene bridge contains 1 to 5 carbon atoms, provided that when one alkylene bridge is formed then only one of X^5 or X^{5a} is on the carbon atom and only one of R^7 or R^8 is on the nitrogen atom, and further provided that when two alkylene bridges are formed then X^5 and X^5a cannot be on the carbon atom and R^7 and R^8 cannot be on the nitrogen atom;

or X^5 taken together with X^{5a} and the carbon atom to which they are attached form a partially saturated or fully saturated 3- to 7-membered ring, or a partially saturated or fully saturated 4- to 8-membered ring having 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur, and nitrogen;

or X^5 taken together with X^{5a} and the carbon atom to which they are attached form a bicyclic ring system consisting of a partially saturated or fully saturated 5- or 6-membered ring, optionally having 1

or 2 heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, sulfur, and oxygen, fused to a partially saturated, fully saturated, or fully unsaturated 5- or 6-membered ring, optionally having 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, sulfur, and oxygen;

Z^1 is a bond, O, or N-X^2, provided that when a and b are both O then Z^1 is not N-X2 or O;

R^7 and R^8 are each independently hydrogen or C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally independently substituted with A', $-CO_2$-(C_1-C_6 alkyl), $-SO_m$(C_1-C_6 alkyl); 1 to 5 halo groups, 1 to 3 hydroxy groups, 1 to 3 -O-CO(C_1-C_{10} alkyl) groups, or 1 to 3 C_1-C_6 alkoxy groups; or

R' and R^8 can be taken together to form -(CH_2), L-(CH_2)$_r$, wherein L is CX^2X^2, SO_m, or NX^2;

R^9 and R'' are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, fluoro, hydroxy, and C_1-C_5 alkyl optionally independently substituted with 1-5 halo groups;

R^{11} is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_5 alkyl and phenyl optionally substituted with 1-3 substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_5 alkyl, halo, and C_1-C_5 alkoxy;

R^{12} is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_5 alkylsulfonyl, C_1-C_5 alkanoyl, and C_1-C_5 alkyl wherein the alkyl portion is optionally independently substituted by 1-5 halo groups;

A' for each occurrence is independently selected from the group consisting of C_5-C_7 cycloalkenyl, phenyl, a partially saturated, fully saturated, or fully unsaturated 4- to 8-membered ring optionally having 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur, and nitrogen, and a bicyclic ring system consisting of a partially saturated, fully unsaturated, or fully saturated 5- or 6- membered ring, optionally having 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, sulfur, and oxygen, fused to a partially saturated, fully saturated, or fully unsaturated 5- or 6-membered ring, optionally having 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, sulfur, and 3O oxygen;

A^1 for each occurrence is independently optionally substituted, on one or optionally both rings if A' is a bicyclic ring system, with up to three substituents, each substituent independently selected from the group consisting of F, Cl, Br, I, OCF_3, OCF_2H, CF_3, CH_3, OCH_3, $-OX^6$, $-CONX^6X^6$, -CO2 X6, oxo, C_1-C_6 alkyl, nitro, cyano, benzyl, $-SO_l$(C_1-C_6 alkyl), 1 H-tetrazol-5-yl, phenyl, phenoxy, phenylalkyloxy, halophenyl, methylenedioxy, $-NX^6X^6$, - NX^6COX^6, $-SO_2NX^6X^6$, $-NX^6SO_2$-phenyl, NX^6SOX, - $CONX^{11}X^{12}$, $-SO_2NX^{11}X^{12}$, $-NX^6SO_2X^{12}$, $-NX^6CONX^{11}X^{12}$, $-NX^6SO_2NX^{11}X^{12}$, $-NX^6COX^{12}$, imidazolyl, thiazolyl, and tetrazolyl, provided that if A' is optionally substituted with methylenedioxy then it can only be substituted with one methylenedioxy; wherein X^{11} is hydrogen or C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally independently substituted with phenyl, phenoxy, C_1-Cs alkoxycarbonyl, $-SO_m$(C_1-C_6 alkyl), 1 to 5 halo groups, 1 to 3 hydroxy groups, 1 to 3 C_1- C_{10} alkanoyloxy groups, or 1 to 3 C_1-C_6 alkoxy groups;

X^{12} is hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, phenyl, thiazolyl, imidazolyl, furyl, or thienyl, provided that when X^{12} is not hydrogen, the X^{12} group is optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of Cl, F, CH_3, OCH_3, OCF_3, and CF_3;

or X^{11} and X^{12} are taken together to form -(CH_2)$_r$$L^1$-($CH_2$), , wherein L^1 is CX^2X^2, O, SO, or NX^2;

r for each occurrence is independently 1, 2, or 3;

X^2 for each occurrence is independently hydrogen, optionally substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl, or optionally substituted C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl, wherein the optionally substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl and optionally substituted C_3-C_1 cycloalkyl in the definition of X^2 are optionally independently substituted with -SO_m(C_1-C_6 alkyl), -CO2 X3, 1 to 5 halo groups, or 1-3 OX^3 groups;

X^3 for each occurrence is independently hydrogen or C1-C_6 alkyl;

X^6 for each occurrence is independently hydrogen, optionally substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl, halogenated C_2-C_6 alkyl, optionally substituted C_3-C7 cycloalkyl, halogenated C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl, wherein the optionally substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl and optionally substituted C_3-C_1 cycloalkyl in the definition of X^6 are optionally independently mono or di-substituted with C_1-C_4 alkyl, hydroxy, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, carboxyl, $CONH_2$, -SO_m(C_1-C_6 alkyl), carboxylate (C_1-C_4 alkyl) ester, or 1 H-tetrazol-5-yl; or

when there are two X^6 groups on one atom and both X^6 are independently C_1-C_6 alkyl, the two C_1-C_6 alkyl groups may be optionally joined, and together with the atom to which the two X^6 groups are attached, form a 4- to 9- membered ring optionally having oxygen, sulfur, or NX^7 as a ring member, wherein X^7 is hydrogen or C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted with hydroxy;

m for each occurrence is independently O, 1, or 2; with the provisos that:

X^6 and X^{12} cannot be hydrogen when attached to CO or SO_2 in the form COX^6, COX^{12}, SO_2X^6 or SO_2X^{12}; and

when R^6 is a bond then L is NX^2 and each r in the definition -$(CH_2)_r$L-$(CH_2)_r$ is independently 2 or 3.

14. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13 wherein said corticotropin releasing factor antagonist is a compound selected from the group consisting of:

4-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-3,6-dimethyl-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenoxy)-pyridine;

4-(1-ethyl propoxy)-2,5-dimethyl-6-(2,4,6-trimethyl phenoxy)-pyrimidine;

[4-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-3,6-dimethyl-pyridin-2-yl]-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-amine;

~~3-{(4-methyl-benzyl)-[3,6-dimethyl-1-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-1 H-pyrazolo[3,4d]pyrimidin-4-yl]-amino}-propan-1-ol;~~

~~propyl-ethyl-[3,6-dimethyl-1-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-1 H-pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidin-4-yl]-amine;~~

~~ethyl-n-propyl-[2,5-dimethyl-7-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-7H-pyrrolo[2,3d]pyrimidin-4-yl]amine;~~

~~2-{N-n-butyl-N-[2,5-dimethyl-7-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-7H-pyrrolo[2,3d]pyrimidin-4-yl]amino}-ethanol;~~

~~[3,6-dimethyl-1-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-1 H-pyrazolo[3,4,b]pyridin-4-yl]-(1-methoxymethylpropyl)-amine;~~

~~4-(1-ethylpropoxy)-2,5-dimethyl-7-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-7H-pyrrolo[2,3b]pyridine;~~

~~2,5,6-trimethyl-7-(1-pro pylbutyl)-4-(2,4,6-trim ethyl phenoxy)-7H-pyrrolo[2,3-d]pyrimidine;~~

~~1-(1-ethyl propyl)-6-methyl-4-(2,4,6-trimethylphenoxy)-1,3-dihydro-imidazo[4,5c]pyridin-2-one;~~

~~1-(1-ethyl-propyl)-4,7-dimethyl-5-(2,4,6-trimethyl- p he noxy)-1,4-dihydro2H-pyrido[3,4-b]pyrazin-3-one;~~

~~1-(1-ethyl -pro pyl)-4,7-dimethyl-5-(2,4,6-trimethyl- p hen oxy)-1,2,3,4tetrahydro-pyrido[3,4-~~

~~b]pyrazine;~~

~~1-(1-ethyl-pro-pyl)-7-methyl-2-oxo-5-(2,4,6-trimethyl-p hen oxy)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-[1,6]naphthyridine-3-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester;~~

~~1-(1-ethyl-propyl)-7-methyl-5-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenoxy)-1,4-dihydro-2H-3oxa-1,6-diaza-naphthalene;~~

~~(1-ethyl-propyl)-[5-methyl-3-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-pyrazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidin7-yl]-amine;~~

~~7-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-2,5-dimethyl-3-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-pyrazolo[1,5a]pyrimidine;~~

~~4-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-2,5-dimethyl-7-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-5H-pyrrolo[3,2d]pyrimidine;~~

~~4-(butyl-ethyl-amino)-2,6-dimethyl-8-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-5,8-dihydro-6H-pyrido[2,3-d]pyrimidin-7-one;~~

~~8-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-6-methyl-4-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrido-[2,3-b]pyrazine;~~

~~4-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-2-methyl-8-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-quinoline; (1-ethyl-propyl)-[2-methyl-8-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-quinolin-4-yl]-amine;~~

~~(propyl-ethyl)-[2-methyl-8-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-pyrido[2,3-d]-pyrimidin-4-yl]-amine;~~

~~(1-ethyl-propoxy)-2-methyl-8-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydropyrido[2,3-d]-pyrimidine;~~

~~8-(1-hydroxymethyl-propylamino)-6-methyl-4-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-3,4-dihydro-1 H-pyrido[2,3-b]pyrazin-2-one;~~

~~4-(1-hydroxymethyl-propylamino)-2-methyl-8-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)quinoline;~~

~~5-(1-hydroxymethyl-propylamino)-7-methyl-1-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-1,4dihydro-2H-3-oxa-1,8-diaza-naphthalene;~~

[3,6-dimethyl-2-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenoxy)-pyridin-4-yl]-(1-ethyl-propyl)-amine;

~~cyclopropylmethyl-[3-(2,4-dimethyl-phenyl)-2,5-dimethyl-pyrazolo[1,5a]pyrimidin-7-yl]-propyl-amine;~~

~~[2,5-dimethyl-3-(2,4-dimethyl-phenyl)-pyrazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidin-7-yl]-(1-ethylpropyl)-amine;~~

~~3-[6-(dimethylamino)-3-pyridinyl-2,5-dimethyl-N,N-dipropylpyrazolo[2,3-a]-pyrimidin-7-amine;~~

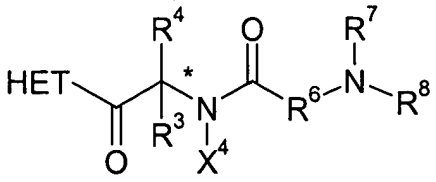
~~3-[6-(dimethylamino)-4-methyl-3-pyridinyl]-2,5-dimethyl-N,N-dipropylpyrazolo[2,3-a]pyrimidine-7-amine;~~

~~3-(2,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-2,5-dimethyl-7-(N-propyl-N-methyloxyethylamino)pyrazolo(2,3-a)pyrimidine;~~

~~7-(N-diethylamino)-2,5-dimethyl-3-(2-methyl-4-methoxyphenyl-[1,5-a]pyrazolopyrimidine; and~~

~~7-(N-(3-cyano-propyl)-N-propy]-amino-2,5,dimethyl-3-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)-[1,5a]-pyrazolopyrimidine~~.

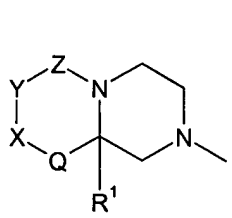
15. (Cancelled) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 wherein said growth hormone secretagogue is a compound of formula IV:



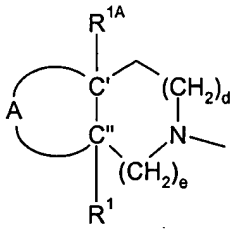
IV

or a stereoisomeric mixture thereof, a diastereomerically enriched, diastereomerically pure, enantiomerically enriched, or enantiomerically pure isomer thereof, or a prodrug of such compound, mixture, or isomer thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound, mixture, isomer, or prodrug, wherein:

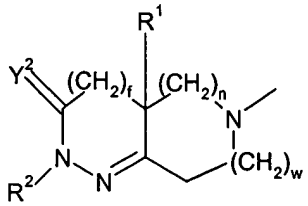
HET is a heterocyclic moiety selected from the group consisting of



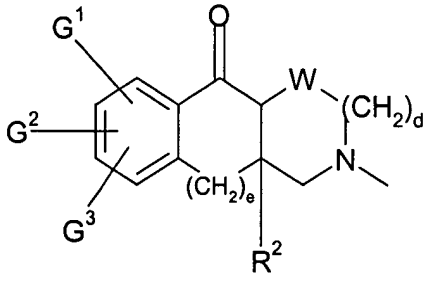
,



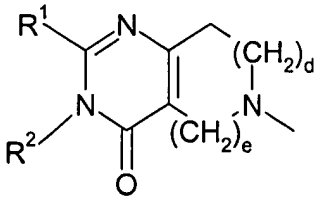
,



,



and



d is 0, 1, or 2;

e is 1 or 2;

f is 0 or 1;

n and w are 0, 1, or 2, provided that n and w cannot both be O at the same time;

Y^2 is oxygen or sulfur;

A is a divalent radical, wherein the left hand side of the radical as shown below is connected to C" and

the right hand side of the radical as shown below is connected C', selected from the group consisting of $-NR^2-CO-NR^2-$, $-NR^2-SO_2-NR^2-$, $-O-CO-NR^2-$, $-NR^2-CO_2-$, $-CO-NR^2-CO-$, $-CO-NR^2-C(R^9R^{10}O)-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-NR^2-CO-$,$-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-$, $-SO_2-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-O-CO-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-O-C(R^9R^{10})-$, $-NR^2-CO-C(R^9R^{10})-$, $-O-CO-C(R^9R^{10})-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-CO-NR^2-$, $-CO-NR^2-CO-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-CO_2-$, $-CO-NR^2-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-CO_2-C(R^9R^{10})-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-$, $-SO_2-NR^2-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-NR^2-CO-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-O-CO-$, $-NR^2-CO-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-$ $-NR^2-SO_2-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-$ $-O-CO-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-CO-NR^2-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-CO-$ $-C(R^9R^{10})-NR^2-CO_2-C(R^9R^{10})-O-CO-NR^2$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-NR^2-CO-NR^2-$, $-NR^2-CO_2-C(R^9R^{10})-$, $-NR^2-CO-NR^2-C(R^9R^{10})-$, $-NR^2-SO_2-NR^2-C(R^9R^{10})-$, $-O-CO-NR^2-C(R^9R^{10})-$, $-CO-N=C(R^{11})-NR^2-$, $-CO-NR^2-C(R^{11})=N-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-NR^{12}-C(R^9R^{10})-$, $-NR^{12}-C(R^9R^{10})-$ $-NR^{12}-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-$ $-CO_2-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^1R^{10})-$ $-NR^2-C(R^{11})=N-CO-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-N(R^{12})-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-NR^{12}-$, $-N=C(R^{11})-NR^2-CO-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-NR^2-SO_2-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-SO_2-NR^2-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-CO_2-$ $-C(R^9R^{10})-SO_2-C(R^9R^{10})-$ $-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-SO_2-$ $-O-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-$ $-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-O-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-CO-C(R^9R^{10})-$, $-CO-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-$, and $-C(R^9R^{10})-NR^2-SO_2-NR^2-$;

Q is a covalent bond or CH_2;

W is CH or N;

X is CR^9R^{10}, $C=CH_2$, or C=O;

Y is CR^9R^{10}, O, or NR^2;

Z is C=O, C=S, or SO_2;

G^1 is hydrogen, halo, hydroxy, nitro, amino, cyano, phenyl, carboxyl, $-CONH_2$, $-C_1-C_4$ alkyl optionally independently substituted with one or more phenyl, one or more halogen, or one or more hydroxy groups, $-C_1-C_4$ alkoxy optionally independently substituted with one or more phenyl, one or more halogen, or one or more hydroxy groups, $-C_1-C_4$ alkylthio, phenoxy, $-CO_2-(C_1-C_4$ alkyl), N,N-di-(C_1-C_4 alkylamino), $-C_2-C_6$ alkenyl optionally independently substituted with one or more phenyl, one or more halogen, or one or more hydroxy groups, $-C_2-C_6$ alkynyl optionally independently substituted with one or more phenyl, one or more halogen, or one or more hydroxy groups, $-C_3-C_6$ cycloalkyl optionally independently substituted with one or more C_1-C_4 alkyl groups, one or more halogen, or one or more hydroxy groups, $-C_1-C_4$ alkylamino carbonyl, or di-C_1-C_4 alkylamino) carbonyl;

G2 and G^3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, hydroxy, $-C_1-C_4$ alkyl optionally independently substituted with one to three halo groups, and $-C_1-C_4$ alkoxy optionally independently substituted with one to three halo groups;

R^1 is hydrogen, -CN, $-(CH_2)_qNX^6COX^6$, $-(CH_2)_qNX^6CO(CH_2)-A^1$, $-(CH_2)_qNX^6SO_2(CH_2)-A^1$, $-(CH_2)_qNX^6SO_2X^6$, $-(CH_2)_qNX^6CONX^6(CH_2)_t-A^1$, $-(CH_2)_qNX^6CONX^6X^6$, $-(CH_2)_qCONX^6X^6$, $-(CH_2)_qCONX^6(CH_2)_t-A^1$, $-(CH_2)_qCO_2X^6$, $-(CH_2)_qCO_2(CH_2)_t-A^1$, $-(CH_2)_qOX^6$, $-(CH_2)_qOOOX^6$, $-(CH_2)_qOCO(CH_2)_t-A^1$, $-(CH_2)_qOCONX^6(CH_2)_t-A^1$, $-(CH_2)_qOCONX^6X^6$, $-(CH_2)_qCOX^6$, $-(CH_2)_qCO(CH_2)_t-A^1$, $-(CH_2)_qNX^6CO_2X^6$, $-(CH_2)_qNX^6SO_2NX^6X^6$, $-(CH_2)_qSO_mX^6$, -

$(CH_2)_qSO_m(CH_2)_t$-A^1, -C_1-C_{10} alkyl, -$(CH_2)_t$-A', -$(CH_2)_q$-(C_3-C_1 cycloalkyl), -$(CH_2)_q$-Y^1-(C_1-C_6 alkyl), -$(CH_2)_q$-Y^1-$(CH_2)_t$-A^1, or -$(CH_2)_q$-Y^1-$(CH_2)_t$-(C_3-C_1 cycloalkyl);

wherein the alkyl and cycloalkyl groups in the definition of R^1 are optionally substituted with C_1-C_4 alkyl, hydroxy, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, carboxyl, - $CONH_2$, -SO_m-(C_1-C_6 alkyl), -CO_2-(C_1-C_4 alkyl) ester, 1H-tetrazol-5-yl, or 1, 2, or 3 fluoro groups;

Y' is O, SO_m, -$CONX^6$-, -CH=CH-, -C=C-, -NX^6CO-, -$CONX^6$-, -CO_2-, -$OCONX^6$- or -OCO-;

q is O, 1, 2, 3, or 4;

t is O, 1, 2, or 3;

said $(CH_2)_q$ group and (CHA group in the definition of R' are optionally independently substituted with hydroxy, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, carboxyl, -$CONH_2$, - SO_m,-(C_1-C_6 alkyl), -CO_2-(C_1-C_4 alkyl) ester, 1 H-tetrazol-5-yl, 1, 2, or 3 fluoro groups, or 1 or 2 C_1-C_4 alkyl groups;

R^{1A} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, F, Cl, Br, I, C_1-C_6 alkyl, phenyl-(C_1-C_3 alkyl), pyridyl-(C_1-C_3 alkyl), thiazolyl-(C_1-C_3 alkyl), and thienyl-(C_1-C_3 alkyl), provided that R^{1A} is not F, Cl, Br, or I when a heteroatom is vicinal to C";

R^2 is hydrogen, C_1-C_8 alkyl, -(C_o-C_3 alkyl)-(C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl), -(C_1-C_4 alkyl)-A', or A', wherein the alkyl groups and the cycloalkyl groups in the definition of R^2 are optionally substituted with hydroxy, -CO2 X^6, -$CONX^6X^6$, -NX^6X^6, -SO_m(C_1-C_6 alkyl), - COA', -COX^6, CF_3, CN, or 1, 2, or 3 independently selected halo groups;

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of A', C_1-C_{10} alkyl, -(C_1-C_6 alkyl)-A', - (C_1-C_6 alkyl)-(C_3-C_1 cycloalkyl), -(C_1-C_5 alkyl)-X'-(C_1-C_5 alkyl), -(C_1-C_5 alkyl)-X'-(C_o-C_5 alkyl)-A', and -(C_1-C_5 alkyl)-X'-(C_1-C_5 alkyl)-(C_3-C_1 cycloalkyl);

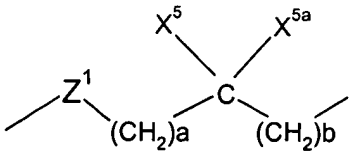
wherein the alkyl groups in the definition of R^3 are optionally substituted with -SO_m(C_1-C_6 alkyl), -CO2 X^3, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 independently selected halo groups, or 1, 2, or 3 independently selected -OX^3 groups;

X' is O, SO_m, -NX^2CO-, -$CONX^2$-, -OCO-, -CO_2-, -CX^2=CX^2-, -NX^2CO_2-, -$OCONX^2$-, or -C≡C-;

R^4 is hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, or C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl, or R^4 taken together with R^3 and the carbon atom to which they are attached form C_5-C_1 cycloalkyl, C_5-C_1 cycloalkenyl, a partially saturated or fully saturated 4- to 8-membered ring having 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur, and nitrogen, or a bicyclic ring system consisting of a partially saturated or fully saturated 5- or 6-membered ring, fused to a partially saturated, fully unsaturated, or fully saturated 5- or 6-membered ring, optionally having 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, sulfur, and oxygen;

X^4 is hydrogen or C_1-C_6 alkyl, or X^4 is taken together with R^4 and the nitrogen atom to which X^4 is attached and the carbon atom to which R^4 is attached and form a five to seven membered ring;

R^6 is a bond or is



;

wherein a and b are each independently O, 1, 2, or 3;

X^5 and X5a are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, CF_3, A' , and C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted with A', OX^2, - SO,-(C_1-C_6 alkyl), -CO_2 X2, C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl, -NX^2X^2, or -$CONX^2X^2$;

or the carbon bearing X^5 or X^{5a} forms one or two alkylene bridges with the nitrogen atom bearing R^7 and R^8 wherein each alkylene bridge contains 1 to 5 carbon atoms, provided that when one alkylene bridge is formed then only one of X^5 or X^5a is on the carbon atom and only one of R^7 or R^8 is on the nitrogen atom, and further provided that when two alkylene bridges are formed then X^5 and X^{5a} cannot be on the carbon atom and R^7 and R^8 cannot be on the nitrogen atom;

or X^5 taken together with X^{5a} and the carbon atom to which they are attached form a partially saturated or fully saturated 3- to 7-membered ring, or a partially saturated or fully saturated 4- to 8-membered ring having 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur, and nitrogen;

or X^5 taken together with X^{5a} and the carbon atom to which they are attached form a bicyclic ring system consisting of a partially saturated or fully saturated 5- or 6-membered ring, optionally having 1 or 2 heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, sulfur, and 3O

oxygen, fused to a partially saturated, fully saturated, or fully unsaturated 5- or 6-membered ring, optionally having 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, sulfur, and oxygen;

Z^1 is a bond, O, or N-X^2, provided that when a and b are both O then Z' is not N-X^2 or O;

R^7 and R^8 are each independently hydrogen or C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally independently substituted with A', -CO_2-(C_1-C_6 alkyl), -SO_m(C_1-C_6 alkyl), 1 to 5 halo groups, 1 to 3 hydroxy groups, 1 to 3 -O-CO(C_1-C_{10} alkyl) groups, or 1 to 3 C_1-C_6 alkoxy groups; or

R^7 and R^8 can be taken together to form -(CH_2), L-(CH_2)$_r$-, wherein L is CX^2X^2, SO,, or NX^2;

R^9 and $R^{'o}$ are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, fluoro, hydroxy, and C_1-C5 alkyl optionally independently substituted with 1-5 halo groups;

R^{11} is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_5 alkyl and phenyl optionally substituted with 1-3 substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_5 alkyl, halo, and C_1-C_5 alkoxy;

R^{12} is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_5 alkylsulfonyl, C_1-C_5 alkanoyl, and C_1-C_5 alkyl wherein the alkyl portion is optionally independently substituted by 1-5 halo groups;

A^1 for each occurrence is independently selected from the group consisting of C_5-C7 cycloalkenyl, phenyl, a partially saturated, fully saturated, or fully unsaturated 4to 8-membered ring optionally having 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur, and nitrogen, and a bicyclic ring system consisting of a partially saturated, fully unsaturated, or fully saturated 5- or 6 membered ring, optionally having 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, sulfur, and oxygen, fused to a partially saturated, fully saturated, or fully unsaturated 5- or 6-membered ring, optionally having 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected

from the group consisting of nitrogen, sulfur, and oxygen;

A^1 for each occurrence is independently optionally substituted, on one or optionally both rings if A' is a bicyclic ring system, with up to three substituents, each substituent independently selected from the group consisting of F, Cl, Br, I, OCF_3, OCF_2H, CF_3, CH_3, OCH_3, $-OX^6$, $-CONX^6X^6$, $-CO_2X^6$, oxo, C_1-C_6 alkyl, nitro, cyano, benzyl, $-SO_m(C_1$-C_6 alkyl), 1 H-tetrazol-5-yl, phenyl, phenoxy, phenylalkyloxy, halophenyl, methylenedioxy, $-NX^6X^6$, $-NX^6COX^6$, $-SO_2NX^6X^6$, $-NX^6SO_2$-phenyl, $NX^6SO_2X^6$, $-CONX^{11}X^{12}$, $-SO_2NX^{11}X^{12}$, $-NX^6SO_2X^{12}$, $-NX^6CONX^{11}X^{12}$, $-NX^6SO_2NX^{11}X^{12}$, $-NX^6COX^{12}$, imidazolyl, thiazolyl, and tetrazolyl, provided that if A^1 is optionally substituted with methylenedioxy then it can only be substituted with one methylenedioxy;

wherein X^{11} is hydrogen or C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally independently substituted with phenyl, phenoxy, C_1-C_6 alkoxycarbonyl, $-SO_M(C_1$-C_6 alkyl), 1 to 5 halo groups, 1 to 3 hydroxy groups, 1 to 3 C_1- C_{10} alkanoyloxy groups, or 1 to 3 C_1-C_6 alkoxy groups;

X^{12} is hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, phenyl, thiazolyl, imidazolyl, fury[, or thienyl, provided that when X'^2 is not hydrogen, the X'^2 group is optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of Cl, F, CH_3, OCH_3, OCF_3, and C F3;

or X" and X'^2 are taken together to form -(CH2)r-L^1-$(CH_2)_r$, wherein L^1 is CX^2X^2, O, SO_m or NX^2;

r for each occurrence is independently 1, 2, or 3;

X^2 for each occurrence is independently hydrogen, optionally substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl, or optionally substituted C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl, wherein the optionally substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl and optionally substituted C_3-C_1 cycloalkyl in the definition of X^2 are optionally independently substituted with $-SO_m(C_1$-C_6 alkyl), -CO2 X^3, 1 to 5 halo groups, or 1-3 OX^3 groups;

X^3 for each occurrence is independently hydrogen or C_1-C_6 alkyl;

X^6 for each occurrence is independently hydrogen, optionally substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl, halogenated C_2-C_6 alkyl, optionally substituted C_3-C7 cycloalkyl, halogenated C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl, wherein the optionally substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl and optionally substituted C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl in the definition of X^6 are optionally independently mono-or di-substituted with C_1-C_4 alkyl, hydroxy, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, carboxyl, $CONH_2$, $-SO_m(C_1C_6$ alkyl), carboxylate (C_1-C_4 alkyl) ester, or 1 H-tetrazol-5-yl; or

when there are two X^6 groups on one atom and both X^6 are independently C_1C_6 alkyl, the two C_1-C_6 alkyl groups may be optionally joined, and together with the atom to which the two X^6 groups are attached, form a 4- to 9- membered ring optionally having oxygen, sulfur, or NX^7 as a ring member, wherein X^7 is hydrogen or C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted with hydroxy;

m for each occurrence is independently O, 1, or 2; with the provisos that:

X^6 and X'2 cannot be hydrogen when attached to CO or SO_2 in the form COX^6, COX'^2, SO2 X^6 or $SO_2X'^2$; and

when R^6 is a bond then L is NX^2 and each r in the definition -(CH_2), L-(CH_2), is independently 2 or 3.

16. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim ~~15~~ 4 wherein said growth hormone secretagogue is

2-amino-N-(2-(3a-(R)-benzyl-2-methyl-3-oxo-2,3,3a,4,6,7-hexahydropyrazolo-[4,3-c]pyridin-5-yl)-1-

(R)-benzyloxymethyl-2-oxo-ethyl)isobutyramide;

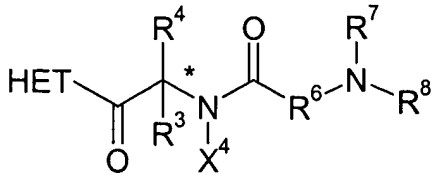
2-amino-N-(1-(R)-(2,4-difluoro-benzyloxymethyl)-2-oxo-2-(3-oxo-3a(R)-pyridin-2-ylmethyl)-2-(2,2,2-trifluoro-ethyl)-2,3,3a,4,6,7-hexahydro-pyrazolo-[4,3-c]pyridin-5-yl)-ethyl)-2-methyl-propionamide;

2-amino-N-{1(R)-benzyloxymethyl-2-[1,3-dioxo-8a(S)-pyridin-2ylmethyl-2-(2,2,2-trifluoro-ethyl)-hexahydro-imidazo[1,5-a]pyrazin-7-yl]-2-oxoethyl}-2-methyl-propionamide;

N-(1(R)-((1,2-dihydro-1-methanesulfonyl-spiro(3H-indole-3,4'-piperidin)-1'-yl)carbonyl)-2-(phenylmethyloxy)ethyl)-2-amino-2-methylpropanamide; or

a prodrug of any of these compounds or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of said compounds or said prodrugs.

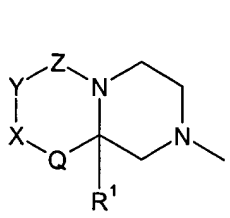
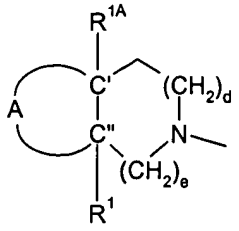
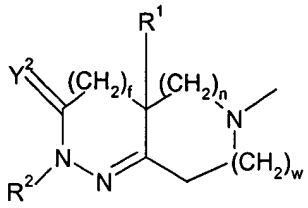
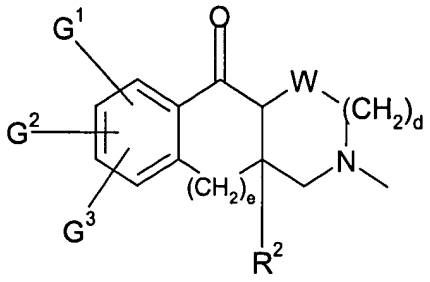
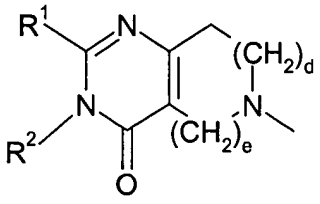
17. (Cancelled) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13 wherein said growth hormone secretagogue is a compound of formula IV:



IV

or a stereoisomeric mixture thereof, a diastereomerically enriched, diastereomerically pure, enantiomerically enriched, or enantiomerically pure isomer thereof, or a prodrug of such compound, mixture, or isomer thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound, mixture, isomer, or prodrug, wherein:

HET is a heterocyclic moiety selected from the group consisting of





and


d is O, 1, or 2;

e is 1 or 2;

f is O or 1;

n and w are O, 1, or 2, provided that n and w cannot both be O at the same time;

Y^2 is oxygen or sulfur;

A is a divalent radical, wherein the left hand side of the radical as shown below is connected to C" and the right hand side of the radical as shown below is connected to C', selected from the group consisting of $-NR^2-CO-NR^2-$, $-NR^2-SO_2-NR^2-$, $-O-CO-NR^2-$, $-NR^2-CO_2-$, $-CO-NR^2-CO-$, $-CO-NR^2-C(R^9R^{10})-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-NR^2-CO-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-$, $-SO_2-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-O-CO-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-O-C(R^9R^{10})-$, $-NR^2-CO-C(R^9R^{10})-$, $-O-CO-C(R^9R^{10})-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-CO-NR^2-$, $-CO-NR^2-CO-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-CO_2-$, $-CO-NR^2-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-I$ $-CO_2-C(R^9R^{10})-$ $-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-$, $-SO_2-NR^2-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^1R^{10})-$, $-C(R^1R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-NR^2-CO-$,$-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-O-CO-$, $-NR^2-CO-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^1R^{10})-$ $-NR^2-SO_2-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^1R^{10})-$ $-O-CO-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-CO-NR^2-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-CO-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-NR^2-CO_2-$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-O-CO-NR^2$, $-C(R^9R^{10})-NR^2-CO-NR^2-$, $-NR^2-CO_2-C(R^9R^{10})-$, $-NR^2-CO-NR^2-C(R^9R^{10})-$ $-NR^2-SO_2-NR^2-C(R^9R^{10})-$ $-O-CO-NR^2-C(R^9R^{10})-$, $-CO-N=C(R^{11})-NR^2-$, $-CO-NR^2-CR^{11}=N-$, $CR^9R^{10}-NR^{12}CR^9R^{10}-C(R^9R^{10})-$ $-CO_2-C(R^9R^{10})-$

$C(R^9R^{10})$-, $-NR^2-C(R^{11})=N-CO-$ $-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-N(R^{12})-C(R^9R^{10})-NR^{12}$-, $-N=C(R^1)-NR^2-CO$-, $-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-NR^2-SO_2$-, $-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-SO_2-NR^2$-, $-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-CO_2$-, $-C(R^9R^{10})-SO_2-C(R^9R^{10})$-, $-C(R^9R^{10})$ $-C(R^9R^{10})-SO_2-$ $-O-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-$ $-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})-O-$ $-C(R^9R^{10})-CO-C(R^9R^{10})$-, $-CO-C(R^9R^{10})-C(R^9R^{10})$-, and $-C(R^9R^{10})-NR^2-SO_2-NR^2$-;

Q is a covalent bond or CH_2; W is CH or N;

X is CR^9R^{10}, $C=CH_2$, or C=O; Y is CR^9R^{10}, O, or NR^2;

Z is C=O, C=S, or SO_2;

G^1 is hydrogen, halo, hydroxy, nitro, amino, cyano, phenyl, carboxyl, $-CONH_2$, $-C_1$-C_4 alkyl optionally independently substituted with one or more phenyl, one or more halogen, or one or more hydroxy groups, $-C_1$-C_4 alkoxy optionally independently substituted with one or more phenyl, one or more halogen, or one or more hydroxy groups, $-C_1$-C_4 alkylthio, phenoxy, $-CO_2-(C_1$-C_4 alkyl), N,N-di-(C_1-C_4 alkylamino), $-C_2$-C_6 alkenyl optionally independently substituted with one or more phenyl, one or more halogen, or one or more hydroxy groups, $-C_2$-C_6 alkynyl optionally independently substituted with one or more phenyl, one or more halogen, or one or more hydroxy groups, $-C_3$-C_6 cycloalkyl optionally independently substituted with one or more C_1-C_4 alkyl groups, one or more halogen, or one or more hydroxy groups, $-C_1$-C_4 alkylamino carbonyl, or di-C_1-C_4 alkylamino) carbonyl;

G^2 and G^3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, hydroxy, $-C_1$-C_4 alkyl optionally independently substituted with one to three halo groups, and $-C_1$-C_4 alkoxy optionally independently substituted with one to three halo groups;

R^1 is hydrogen, -CN, $-(CH_2)_qNX^6COX^6$, $-(CH_2)_qNX^6CO(CH_2)_t-A^1$ $-(CH_2)_qNX^6SO_2(CH_2)_t-A^1$, $-(CH_2)_qNX^6SO_2X^6$, $-(CH_2)_qNX^6CONX^6(CH_2)_rA^1$, $-(CH_2)_qNX^6CONX^6X^6$, $-(CH_2)_qCONX^lX^6$, $-(CH_2)_gCONX^6(CH_2)_t-A^1$, $-(CH_2)_qCO_2X^6$, $-(CH_2)_gCO_2(CH_2)_t-A^1$, $-(CH_2)_qOX^6$, $-(CH_2)gOCOX^6$, $-(CH_2)_gOOO(CH_2)_t-A^1$, $-(CH_2)_qOOONX^s$(CHA-A^1, $-(CH_2)_qOOONX^6X^6$, $-(CH_2)_qCOX^6$, $-(CH_2),CO(CH_2)_t-A^1$, $-(CH_2)_qNX^6CO2X^6$, $-(CH_2)_qNX^6SO_2NX^6X^6$, $-(CH_2)gSO_mX^6-(CH_2),SO_m(CH_2)_t-A^1$, $-C_1$- C_{10} alkyl, $-(CH_2)_t-A^1$, $-(CH_2)_q-(C_3$-C_1 cycloalkyl), $-(CH_2)_q-Y^1-(C_1$-C_6 alkyl), $-(CH_2)_qY^1-(CH_2)_t-A^1$, or $-(CH_2)_q-Y^1-(CH_2)_t-(C_3$-$C_1$ cycloalkyl);

wherein the alkyl and cycloalkyl groups in the definition of R' are optionally substituted with C_1-C_4 alkyl, hydroxy, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, carboxyl, - $CONH_2$, $-SO_m$ (C_1-C_6 alkyl), $-CO_2-(C_1$-C_4 alkyl) ester, 1 H-tetrazol-5-yl, or 1, 2, or 3 fluoro groups;

Y' is O, SO_m, $-CONX^6$-, -CH=CH-, -C=C-, $-NX^6CO$-, $-CONX^6$-, $-CO_2$-, $-OCONX^6$- or -OCO-;

q is O, 1, 2, 3, or 4; t is O, 1, 2, or 3;

said (CH2)g group and (CHA group in the definition of R' are optionally independently substituted with hydroxy, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, carboxyl, $-CONH_2$, - $SO_2(C_1$-C_6 alkyl), $-CO_2-(C_1$-C_4 alkyl) ester, 1 H-tetrazol-5-yl, 1, 2, or 3 fluoro groups, or 1 or 2 C_1-C_4 alkyl groups;

R^{1A} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, F, Cl, Br, I, C_1-C_6 alkyl, phenyl-(C_1-C_3 alkyl), pyridyl-(C_1-C_3 alkyl), thiazolyl-(C_1-C_3 alkyl), and thienyl-(C_1-C_3 alkyl), provided that R^{1A} is not F, Cl, Br, or I when a heteroatom is vicinal to C";

R^2 is hydrogen, C_1-C_8 alkyl, $-(C_o$-C_3 alkyl)-(C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl), $-(C_1$-C_4 alkyl)-A', or A', wherein the alkyl

groups and the cycloalkyl groups in the definition of R^2 are optionally substituted with hydroxy, -CO2 X^6, $-CONX^6X^6$, $-NX^6X^6$, $-SO_m(C_1-C_6$ alkyl), - COA', $-COX^6$, CF_3, CN, or 1, 2, or 3 independently selected halo groups;

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of A', C_1- C_{10} alkyl, $-(C_1-C_6$ alkyl)-A', - $(C_1-C_6$ alkyl)-$(C_3-C_7$ cycloalkyl), $-(C_1-C_5$ alkyl)-X'-$(C_1-C_5$ alkyl), $-(C_1-C_5$ alkyl)-X'-$(C_o-C_5$ alkyl)-A', and $-(C_1-C_5$ alkyl)-X'-$(C_1-C_5$ alkyl)-$(C_3-C_1$ cycloalkyl);

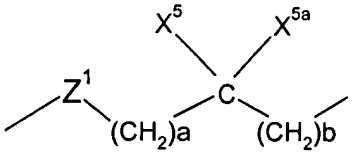
wherein the alkyl groups in the definition of R^3 are optionally substituted with $-SO_m(C_1-C_6$ alkyl), $-CO_2$ X3, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 independently selected halo groups, or 1, 2, or 3 independently selected $-OX^3$ groups;

X' is O, SO, $-NX^2CO-$, $-CONX^2-$, -OCO-, $-CO_2-$, $-CX^2=CX^2-$, $-NX^2CO_2-$, $-OCONX^2\_$, or $^-C^-C-$;

R^4 is hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, or C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl, or R^4 taken together with R^3 and the carbon atom to which they are attached form C_5-C_1 cycloalkyl, C_5-C_1 cycloalkenyl, a partially saturated or fully saturated 4- to 8-membered ring having 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur, and nitrogen, or a bicyclic ring system consisting of a partially saturated or fully saturated 5- or 6-membered ring, fused to a partially saturated, fully unsaturated, or fully saturated 5- or 6-membered ring, optionally having 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, sulfur, and oxygen;

X^4 is hydrogen or C_1-C_6 alkyl, or X^4 is taken together with R^4 and the nitrogen atom to which X^4 is attached and the carbon atom to which R^4 is attached and form a five to seven membered ring;

R^6 is a bond or is



;

wherein a and b are each independently O, 1, 2, or 3;

X^5 and X5a are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, CF_3, A^1 , and C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted with A', OX^2, - SO,(-C_1-C_6 alkyl), $-CO_2$ X^2, C_3-C_1 cycloalkyl, $-NX^2X^2$, or - $CONX^2X^2$;

or the carbon bearing X^5 or X^{5a} forms one or two alkylene bridges with the nitrogen atom bearing R^7 and R^8 wherein each alkylene bridge contains 1 to 5 carbon atoms, provided that when one alkylene bridge is formed then only one of X^5 or X^{5a} is on the carbon atom and only one of R^7 or R^8 is on the nitrogen atom, and further provided that when two alkylene bridges are formed then X^5 and X^5a cannot be on the carbon atom and R^7 and R^8 cannot be on the nitrogen atom;

or X^5 taken together with X^{5a} and the carbon atom to which they are attached form a partially saturated or fully saturated 3- to 7-membered ring, or a partially saturated or fully saturated 4- to 8-membered ring having 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur, and nitrogen;

or X^5 taken together with X^{5a} and the carbon atom to which they are attached form a bicyclic ring system consisting of a partially saturated or fully saturated 5- or 6-membered ring, optionally having 1

or 2 heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, sulfur, and oxygen, fused to a partially saturated, fully saturated, or fully unsaturated 5- or 6-membered ring, optionally having 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, sulfur, and oxygen;

Z^1 is a bond, O, or N-X^2, provided that when a and b are both O then Z^1 is not N-X2 or O;

R^7 and R^8 are each independently hydrogen or C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally independently substituted with A', -CO_2-(C_1-C_6 alkyl), -SO_m(C_1-C_6 alkyl); 1 to 5 halo groups, 1 to 3 hydroxy groups, 1 to 3 -O-CO(C_1-C_{10} alkyl) groups, or 1 to 3 C_1-C_6 alkoxy groups; or

R' and R^8 can be taken together to form -(CH_2), L-$(CH_2)_r$, wherein L is CX^2X^2, SO_m, or NX^2;

R^9 and R'' are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, fluoro, hydroxy, and C_1-C_5 alkyl optionally independently substituted with 1-5 halo groups;

R^{11} is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_5 alkyl and phenyl optionally substituted with 1-3 substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_5 alkyl, halo, and C_1-C_5 alkoxy;

R^{12} is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_5 alkylsulfonyl, C_1-C_5 alkanoyl, and C_1-C_5 alkyl wherein the alkyl portion is optionally independently substituted by 1-5 halo groups;

A' for each occurrence is independently selected from the group consisting of C_5-C_7 cycloalkenyl, phenyl, a partially saturated, fully saturated, or fully unsaturated 4- to 8-membered ring optionally having 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur, and nitrogen, and a bicyclic ring system consisting of a partially saturated, fully unsaturated, or fully saturated 5- or 6- membered ring, optionally having 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, sulfur, and oxygen, fused to a partially saturated, fully saturated, or fully unsaturated 5- or 6-membered ring, optionally having 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, sulfur, and 3O oxygen;

A^1 for each occurrence is independently optionally substituted, on one or optionally both rings if A' is a bicyclic ring system, with up to three substituents, each substituent independently selected from the group consisting of F, Cl, Br, I, OCF_3, OCF_2H, CF_3, CH_3, OCH_3, -OX^6, -$CONX^6X^6$, -CO2 X6, oxo, C_1-C_6 alkyl, nitro, cyano, benzyl, -SO_l(C_1-C_6 alkyl), 1 H-tetrazol-5-yl, phenyl, phenoxy, phenylalkyloxy, halophenyl, methylenedioxy, -NX^6X^6, - NX^6COX^6, -$SO_2NX^6X^6$, -NX^6SO_2-phenyl, NX^6SOX, -$CONX^{11}X^{12}$, -$SO_2NX^{11}X^{12}$, -$NX^6SO_2X^{12}$, -$NX^6CONX^{11}X^{12}$, -$NX^6SO_2NX^{11}X^{12}$, -NX^6COX^{12}, imidazolyl, thiazolyl, and tetrazolyl, provided that if A' is optionally substituted with methylenedioxy then it can only be substituted with one methylenedioxy; wherein X^{11} is hydrogen or C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally independently substituted with phenyl, phenoxy, C_1-Cs alkoxycarbonyl, -SO_m(C_1-C_6 alkyl), 1 to 5 halo groups, 1 to 3 hydroxy groups, 1 to 3 C_1- C_{10} alkanoyloxy groups, or 1 to 3 C_1-C_6 alkoxy groups;

X^{12} is hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, phenyl, thiazolyl, imidazolyl, furyl, or thienyl, provided that when X^{12} is not hydrogen, the X^{12} group is optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of Cl, F, CH_3, OCH_3, OCF_3, and CF_3;

or X^{11} and X^{12} are taken together to form -$(CH_2)_rL^1$-(CH_2), , wherein L^1 is CX^2X^2, O, SO, or NX^2;

r for each occurrence is independently 1, 2, or 3;

X^2 for each occurrence is independently hydrogen, optionally substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl, or optionally substituted C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl, wherein the optionally substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl and optionally substituted C_3-C_1 cycloalkyl in the definition of X^2 are optionally independently substituted with -SO_m(C_1-C_6 alkyl), -CO2 X3, 1 to 5 halo groups, or 1-3 OX^3 groups;

X^3 for each occurrence is independently hydrogen or C1-C_6 alkyl;

X^6 for each occurrence is independently hydrogen, optionally substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl, halogenated C_2-C_6 alkyl, optionally substituted C_3-C7 cycloalkyl, halogenated C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl, wherein the optionally substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl and optionally substituted C_3-C_1 cycloalkyl in the definition of X^6 are optionally independently monoor di-substituted with C_1-C_4 alkyl, hydroxy, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, carboxyl, $CONH_2$, -SO_m(C_1-C_6 alkyl), carboxylate (C_1-C_4 alkyl) ester, or 1 H-tetrazol-5-yl; or

when there are two X^6 groups on one atom and both X^6 are independently C_1-C_6 alkyl, the two C_1-C_6 alkyl groups may be optionally joined, and together with the atom to which the two X^6 groups are attached, form a 4- to 9- membered ring optionally having oxygen, sulfur, or NX^7 as a ring member, wherein X^7 is hydrogen or C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted with hydroxy;

m for each occurrence is independently O, 1, or 2; with the provisos that:

X^6 and X^{12} cannot be hydrogen when attached to CO or SO_2 in the form COX^6, COX^{12}, SO_2X^6 or SO_2X^{12}; and

when R^6 is a bond then L is NX^2 and each r in the definition -$(CH_2)_r$L-$(CH_2)_r$ is independently 2 or 3.

18. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim ~~17~~ 13 wherein said growth hormone secretagogue is

2-amino-N-(2-(3a-(R)-benzyl-2-methyl-3-oxo-2,3,3a,4,6,7-hexahydro-pyrazolo-[4,3-c]pyridin-5-yl)-1-(R)-benzyloxymethyl-2-oxo-ethyl)-isobutyramide;

2-amino-N-(1-(R)-(2,4-difluoro-benzyloxymethyl)-2-oxo-2-(3-oxo-3a-(R)-pyridin-2-ylmethyl)-2-(2,2,2-trifluoro-ethyl)-2,3,3a,4,6,7-hexahydro-pyrazolo-[4,3-c]pyridin-5-yl)-ethyl)-2-methyl-propionamide;

2-amino-N-{1(R)-benzyloxymethyl-2-[1,3-dioxo-8a(S)-pyridin-2-ylmethyl-2-(2,2,2-trifluoro-ethyl)-hexahydro-imidazo[1,5-a]pyrazin-7-yl]-2-oxo-ethyl}-2-methyl-propionamide;

N-(1(R)-((1,2-dihydro-1-methanesulfonyl-spiro(3H-indole-3,4'-piperidin)-1'-yl)carbonyl)-2-(phenylmethyl oxy)ethyl)-2-amino-2-methyl-propanamide; or

a prodrug of any of these compounds, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of these compounds or prodrugs.

19. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 18 wherein said corticotropin releasing factor antagonist is 4-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-3,6-dimethyl-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenoxy)-pyridine and said growth hormone secretagogue is 2-amino-N-[2-(3a(R)-benzyl-2-methyl-3-oxo-2,3,3a,4,6,7-hexahydro-pyrazolo-[4,3-c]pyridin-5-yl)-1(R)-benzyloxymethyl-2-oxo-ethyl]-isobutyramide.

2O. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 18 wherein said corticotropin releasing factor antagonist is 4-(1-ethyl- propoxy)-3,6-dimethyl -2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenoxy)-pyridine and said growth hormone secretagogue is 2-amino-N-(1(R)-(2,4-difluoro-benzyloxymethyl)-2-oxo-2-

(3-oxo-3a(R)-(pyridin-2-ylmethyl)-2-(2,2,2-trifluoro-ethyl)-2,3,3a,4,6,7-hexahydro-pyrazolo-[4,3-c]pyridin-5-yl)-ethyl)-2-methyl-propionamide.

21. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 18 wherein said corticotropin releasing factor antagonist is (3,6-dimethyl-2-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenoxy)-pyridin-4-yl)-(1-ethyl- propyl)-amine and said growth hormone secretagogue is 2-amino-N-[2-(3a(R)-benzyl-2-methyl-3-oxo-2,3,3a,4,6,7-hexahydro-pyrazolo-[4,3-c]pyridin-5-yl)-1(R)-benzyloxymethyl-2-oxo-ethyl]-isobutyramide.

22. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 18 wherein said corticotropin releasing factor antagonist is (3,6-dimethyl-2-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenoxy)-pyridin-4-yl)-(1-ethyl-propyl)-amine and said growth hormone secretagogue is 2-15 amino-N-(1(R)-(2,4-difluoro-benzyloxymethyl)-2-oxo-2-(3-oxo-3a(R)-(pyridin-2-ylmethyl)-2-(2,2,2-trifluoro-ethyl)-2,3,3a,4,6,7-hexahydro-pyrazolo-[4,3-c]pyridin-5-yl)-ethyl)-2-methyl-propionamide.

23. (Withdrawn) A method for treating or preventing osteoporosis or frailty associated with aging or obesity, said method comprising administering to a human or other animal an amount of a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, which is effective in treating or preventing osteoporosis or frailty associated with aging or obesity.

24. (Withdrawn) A method for treating or preventing a cardiovascular or heart related disease, said method comprising administering to a human or other animal an amount of a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, which is effective in treating or preventing the cardiovascular or heart related disease.

25. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 24 wherein the cardiovascular or heart related disease is hypertension, tachycardia, or congestive heart failure.

26. (Withdrawn) A method for accelerating bone fracture repair, attenuating protein catabolic response after a major operation, reducing cachexia and protein loss due to chronic illness, accelerating wound healing, or accelerating the recovery of burn patients or of patients having undergone major surgery, said method comprising administering to a human or other animal an amount of a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, which is effective in accelerating bone fracture repair, attenuating protein catabolic response after a major operation, reducing cachexia and protein loss due to chronic illness, accelerating wound healing, or accelerating the recovery of burn patients or of patients having undergone major surgery.

27. (Withdrawn) A method for treating or preventing osteoporosis, frailty associated with aging or obesity, cardiovascular or heart related disease, for accelerating bone fracture repair, attenuating protein catabolic response after a major operation, reducing cachexia and protein loss due to chronic illness, accelerating wound healing, or accelerating the recovery of burn patients or of patients having undergone major surgery, said method comprising administering to a human or other animal an amount of a corticotropin releasing factor antagonist and an amount of a growth hormone secretagogue or growth hormone.

28. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 27 wherein said corticotropin releasing factor antagonist and said growth hormone secretagogue or growth hormone are administered simultaneously or in a

specifically timed manner.

29. (Withdrawn) A kit comprising:

a. an amount of a corticotropin releasing factor antagonist, in a first unit dosage form;

b. an amount of a growth hormone secretagogue or growth hormone, in a second unit dosage form; and

c. a container.

30. (Currently amended) A kit comprising:

a. an amount of a corticotropin releasing factor antagonist as defined in claim 13, in a first unit dosage form;

b. an amount of a growth hormone secretagogue or growth hormone as defined in Claim 4, in a second unit dosage form; and

c. a container.

31. (Currently amended) A kit comprising:

a. an amount of a corticotropin releasing factor antagonist as defined in claim 14, in a first unit dosage form;

b. an amount of a growth hormone secretagogue or growth hormone as defined in Claim 4, in a second unit dosage form; and

c. a container.

32. (Withdrawn) A kit comprising:

a. an amount of a corticotropin releasing factor antagonist, in a first unit dosage form;

b. an amount of a growth hormone secretagogue as defined in claim 15, in a second unit dosage form; and

c. a container.

33. (Currently amended) A kit according to claim ~~29~~ 30 wherein said corticotropin releasing factor antagonist is 4-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-3,6-dimethyl-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenoxy)-pyridine or [3,6-dimethyl-2-(2,4,6-dimethyl-phenoxy)-pyridin-4-yl]-(1-ethyl-propyl)-amine, and said growth hormone secretagogue is 2-amino-N-[2-(3a(R)-benzyl-2-methyl-3-oxo-2,3,3a,4,6,7-hexahydro-pyrazolo-[4,3-c]pyridin-5-yl)-1(R)-benzyloxymethyl-2-oxo-ethyl]-isobutyramide or 2-amino-N-(1-(R)-(2,4-difluoro-benzyloxymethyl)-2-oxo-2-(3-oxo-3a-(R)-pyridin-2-ylmethyl)-2-(2,2,2-trifluoro-ethyl)-2,3,3a,4,6,7-hexahydro-pyrazolo-[4,3-c]pyridin-5-yl)-ethyl)-2-methyl-propionamide.

34. (Withdrawn) A kit, comprising

a. a pharmaceutical composition, comprising an amount of a growth hormone or growth hormone secretagogue;

b. a package containing the above composition; and

c. a package insert that may be integral with said package;

wherein it is stated on the package insert that the pharmaceutical composition is to be administered simultaneously or in a specifically timed manner with a pharmaceutical composition containing at least one corticotropin releasing factor antagonist.

35. (Withdrawn) A kit, comprising

a. a pharmaceutical composition, comprising an amount of a corticotropin releasing factor antagonist;

b. a package containing the above composition; and

c. a package insert that may be integral with said package; wherein it is stated on the package insert that the pharmaceutical composition is to be administered simultaneously or in a specifically timed manner with a pharmaceutical composition containing at least one growth hormone or growth hormone secretagogue.